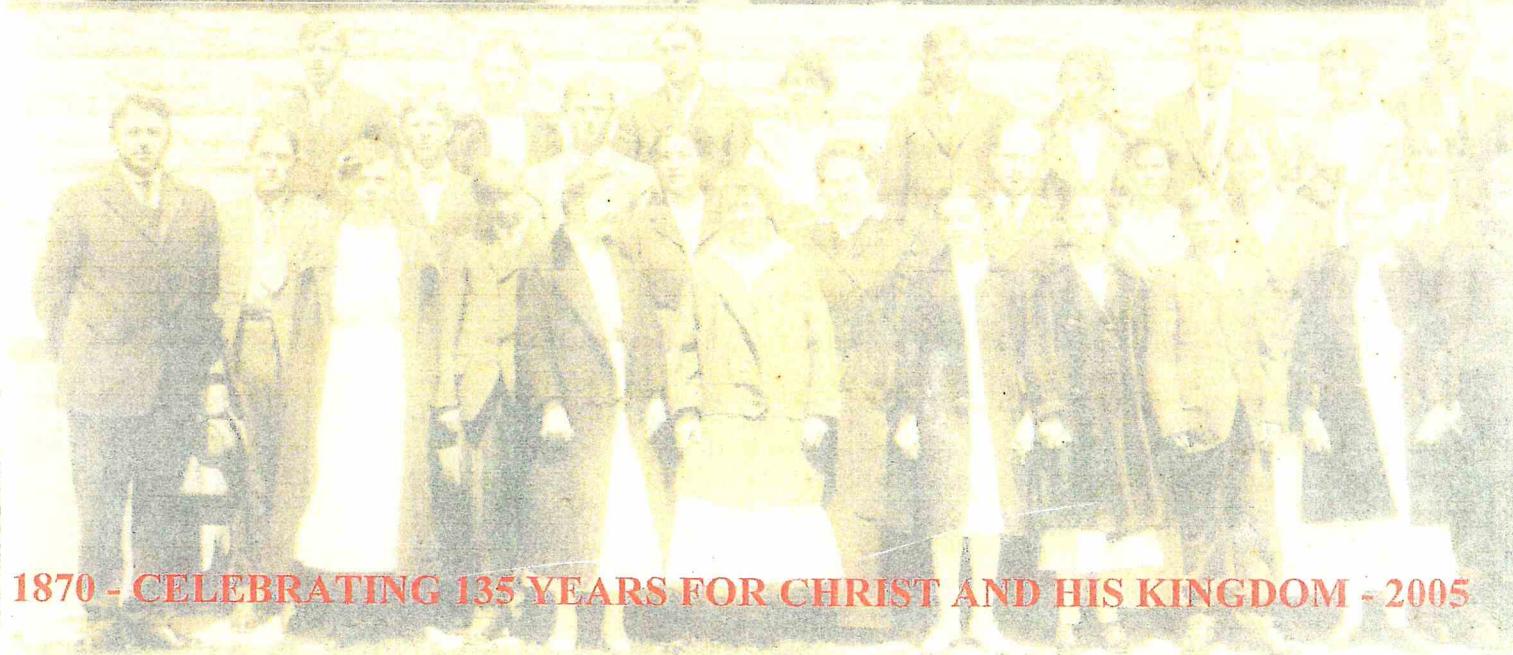


15.00

St. Paul United Church of Christ

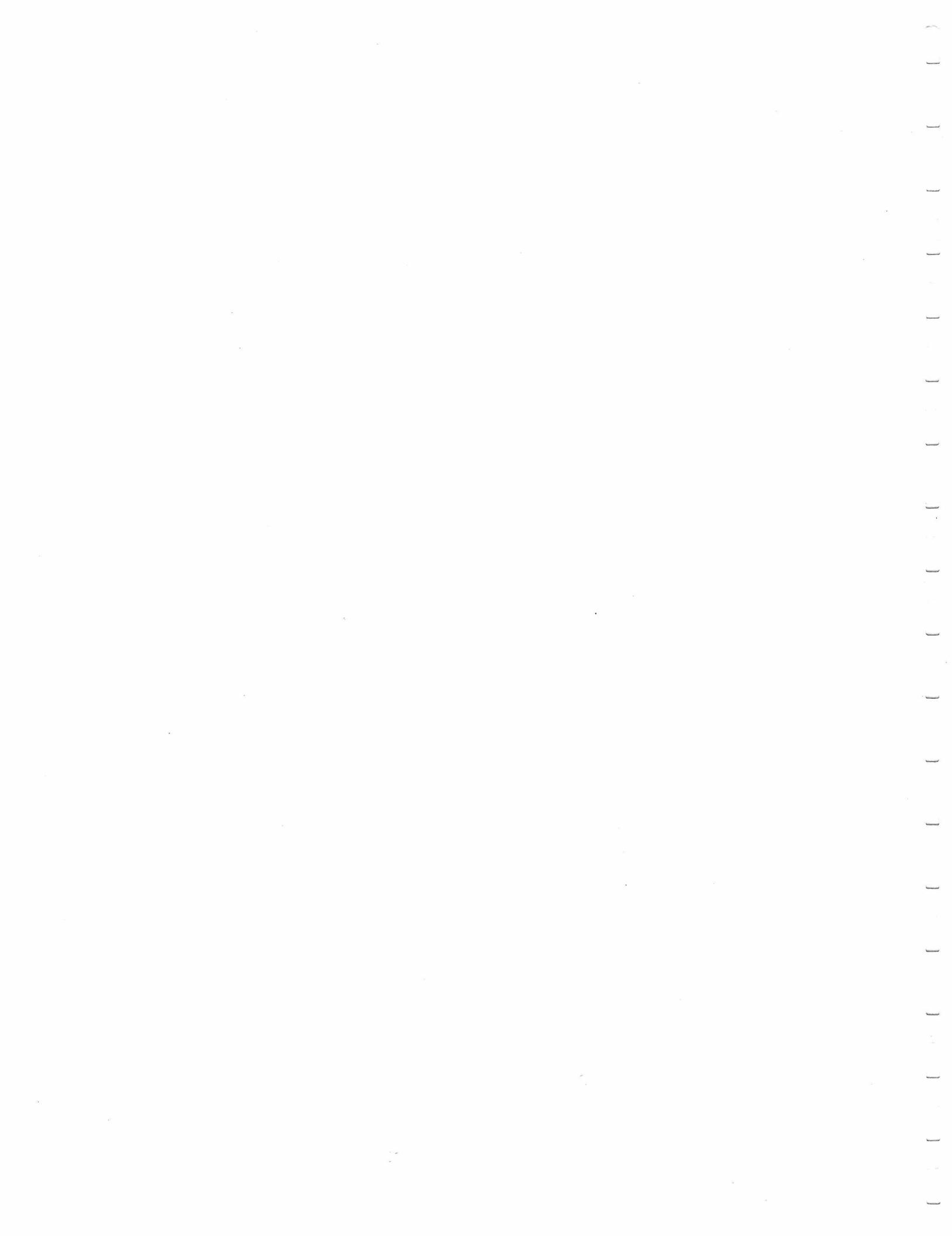
205 East Jackson St. Pinckneyville, Illinois 62274



1870 - CELEBRATING 135 YEARS FOR CHRIST AND HIS KINGDOM - 2005



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A place where everyone is welcome.



The History Of
St. Paul United Church Of Christ

205 E. Jackson Street
Pinckneyville, Illinois



1870 - 2005

CELEBRATING 135 YEARS
FOR CHRIST AND HIS KINGDOM

Telephone - (618)-357-8075

Fax – 357-6686

E-Mail - stpaulucc@verizon.net

Author's Preface

And unto the angles of the churches of Pinckneyville, Illinois deep within the middle-western region of the United States, I write to you with greetings and peace. To pen a complete history of the church on 205 Jackson St. is the equivalent of writing a series of Encyclopedia volumes. Many persons and items of importance have undoubtedly been left out of this work. When one hears the name of "St. Paul church in Pinckneyville" he or she may have countless thoughts of its structure, works, and people come to mind.

I could start listing names of those who I feel have been outstanding stewards of the Lord, but I would surely leave someone out, and they would become hurt and offended, and then maybe even decide to leave the church over it, so I regret to leave them as unsung heroes, but they know who they are just as much as God recognizes their service. I did include names in this work for a few key players who built the history, but if you were one of those who helped greatly and do not find your name do not take it as a strike against you, remember, This Is Just a nostalgic Outline.

If a lesson is to be learned in this reading, it is the following: We as a people are given a responsibility from God to express care and concern for his land and all the structures and people within it. Whether the care we give is in the name of respect for those who would use the Lord's gift to aid and comfort others, or in the name of man written law (of which is structured by man's weak and simple mind – a mechanism which will never comprehend as much as the limitless knowledge of Almighty God), all care givers will some day stand trial before our Heavenly Father and be forced to give account of how they shared, preserved, and respected these Gifts from God.

This is a story about a gift given from the Lord as an answer to the prayers of the restless. This gift was made by the hands of man and used as a tool to glorify His name. This gift was given to a group of Germans nearly a century and a half ago on Jackson St. in a Middle Western village called Pinckneyville. The Germans prayed for a meeting place to worship their savior who brought them out of an under-privileged nation. God looked upon them with favor and granted 135 years of fellowship and time to do his will. The gift is now in its third century of existence. The world, society and culture of Pinckneyville have all changed since the day of the gift's receiving date.

The Germans have changed as well. Today none of the original charter members, pioneers, or witnesses of the 1870 groundbreaking ceremony still lives. What goals did these forefathers have for their gift of a church? Because all are now laid to rest, we may never know. But one fact is certain – the original purpose of the church on Jackson St. has been fulfilled. St. Paul was built as a German speaking church and most of the immigrants had a great opportunity to worship in their native tongue. Yes, the purpose has changed through the years, but the original purpose was fulfilled for over forty years until the immigrants had either passed away or were thrown into an Orwellian society, being forced to learn the English language. One is only then led to ask, "What has their purpose been since 1920?" and what is our reason for being open today? According to

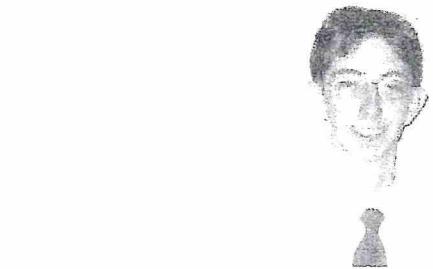
our current constitution our purpose is to worship God, to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to celebrate the Sacraments; to realize Christian Fellowship and unity within the Church and the Church Universal; to render loving service toward humankind; and to strive for righteousness, justice, and peace. It is up to the people of the church to be true to the church, stick it out, and down-right help it to ensure today's purpose be fulfilled.

Today clouds of concern hang over the United Church of Christ in Pinckneyville involving its future. I assure you all: for any organization to thrive (not just survive, but thrive) for 100 years, a higher power must have been at work. For an organization to be in decline over the course of 35 years, a higher power must have been at work in that doing as well. This is a thought for readers in the year 2005: No matter how much sin is committed throughout the world, no matter how many deny Him and commit detestable acts in His sight, no matter how many suicidal terrorists must die in His name, God will prevail and make what he wants out of this world he owns and created, which he can put to end anytime he feels like. If we pray that "The Lord have HIS own way" with St. Paul United Church of Christ in Pinckneyville and if it is His will for the church to thrive again as a congregation – the church will live indeed.

For those curious of origins and results of the church on Jackson Street, the following account is an outline of the building's seven generation history.

If anyone has questions or comments about fact accuracy, offend for some reason, or if you want to pick-a-nit and fight,
Please write me via the church at:

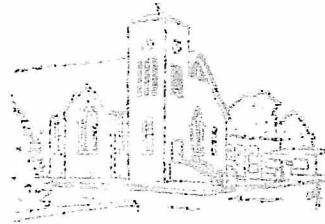
**St. Paul Church Historian
205 E. Jackson St.
Pinckneyville, IL 62274**



Written with the Peace of Christ
By Eric Lambert

Eric Adam Lambert
St. Paul UCC in Pinckneyville, IL – Historian

The History of St. Paul United Church Of Christ



1870

Pinckneyville, Illinois

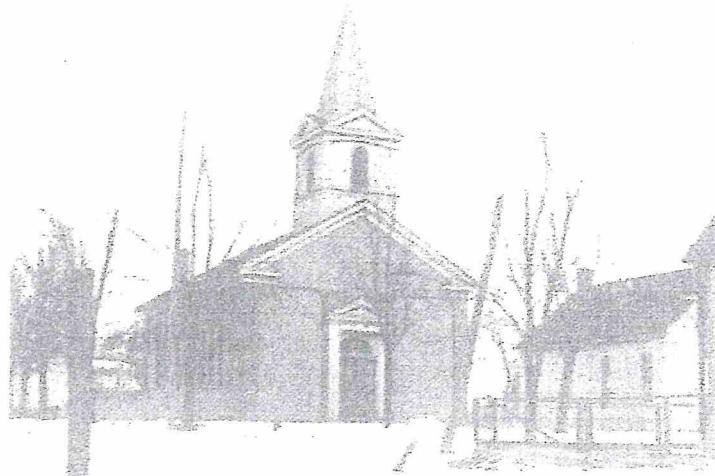
2005

Through the years, St. Paul United Church of Christ at 205 E. Jackson Street in Pinckneyville, Illinois has labored to provide for the spiritual needs of its people with worship and instruction in the teachings of the Lord our God. Here is a look back at structure's history as recalled on its 135th anniversary.

Humble Beginnings

St. Paul United Church of Christ had its earliest beginnings around 1865 when some German immigrants began coming to the Pinckneyville community and building homes amidst the aftermath of the American Civil War. These early settlers were of German Lutheran, Methodist, Evangelical, and Reformed denominations, and their main concern at this time was to have a "German Church".

At first, services were held in various homes by visiting ministers, but it was soon felt that a church was needed. In 1868 a group of devout Germans began efforts to raise funds, and by 1870 a small brick church was built at the site of our present church.

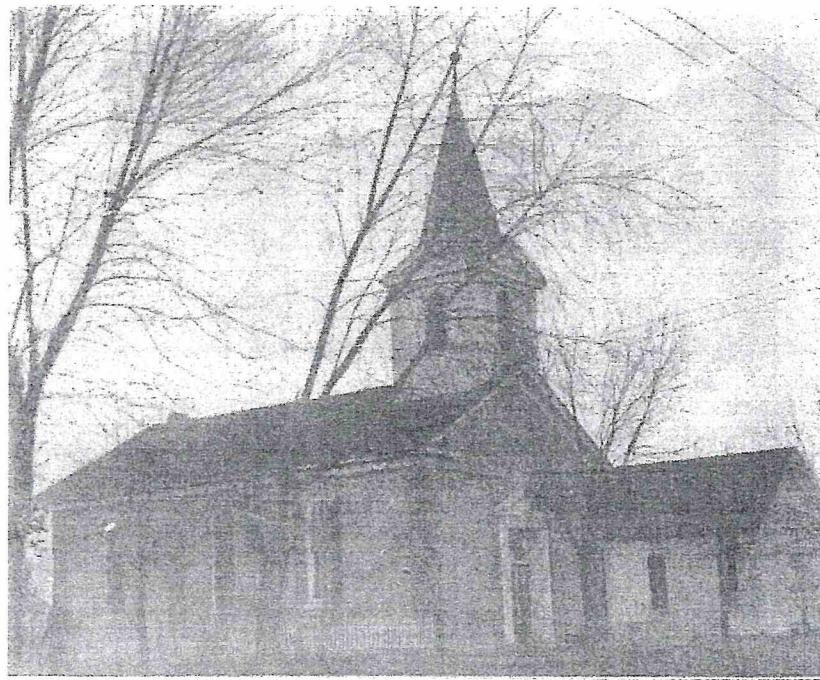


Our First Church As It Appeared In 1870

An unusual, though little known, fact is that the church was designed and constructed without knowledge of what kind of denomination would be calling it home. Their main concern thought the time of building was to have a “German Church”. Among this unusual situation, the four groups of Germans that had worked together in building this church really didn’t know which group was going to own it. They had what some could call “try-out religions”. A Lutheran pastor served for a while, and then the congregation would try a pastor of a different denomination. The common tie however - all services were held in the German language.

An early pastor would later write, “...It’s (St. Paul Church) history embraces this peculiarity, that it was built without one established congregation or a settled pastor...not until the church was finished did the question of ownership arise. The only way to solve this question was to organize, and accept a constitution. On this occasion the large majority of Germans were in favor of an evangelical (that is United Reformed and Lutheran Church) and accordingly in the year 1870 accepted an Evangelical Constitution...” - Rev. John Klick (1883)

To be open to all German services, the humble structure had its spiritual inception on September 30, 1870 and became the first German church to be organized in the city. According to the records found in the Perry County Recorder’s office, the congregation was first known as “German Evangelical (that is United Lutheran and Reformed) St. Paul Church (Formerly known as the Evangelical Lutheran Church) of Pinckneyville”. The Certificate of Incorporation of German Evangelical St. Paul’s Church does not appear in the record of Perry County. - (History of Perry Co. VOL I. p.400)



The Pinckneyville, IL German Evangelical Church

Now it was felt that a parsonage and a school were very much needed, so in 1872 a house was built east of the church as a parsonage, one room of which was to be used for a German Parochial school.

At first, the Reverend George Goeringer of the Missouri Synod and Reverend John Maul served as part-time pastors, but soon Reverend Albert Zeller of the German Evangelical Synod was called as the first resident pastor. Through his efforts the Evangelical constitution was adopted in 1873 and the church formally organized with twelve charter members recorded as: Louis Yung, George Huth, Jacob Kunz, Peter Loos Sr., Peter Yung, John Hepp, Charley Huffman, Balthasar Gerstenschlager, Jacob Loos, Henry Driemeyer, John Valentine, and John Loos.

In 1874, Reverend Zeller left the congregation and Reverend F. Kauffman was called and served for two years. Rev Kauffman soon moved to DuQuoin and founded a second German church belonging to the Evangelical Synod of North America, today known as St. Johns. He was succeeded by Reverend John Klick after establishing a German Protestant. The school was successfully established and attended for several years but as public schools grew, in time the students and instructors abandoned it and sold the building.

At this time the records show that the number of members had increased to fifty families and the congregation was free of debts.



(Our Church and School & First Parsonage)

The Pinckneyville, IL German Lutheran Confirmation Class of 1898.



(Not necessarily listed in order)

George E. Schorn
Edward Stein
Edward Engelhardt
Phillipine Jung
Ida Cath Jung

Christine Driemeyer
Emma Loos
Elenora Morgenstern
Anna Thimming
Catherine Dehne

Seated In Front: Rev. F. J. Buschmann

The next sixteen years seemed to be uneventful with the exception of an important meeting held on January 1, 1887, concerning finances of the church and school. From 1882-1898, the church was served by various pastors, namely; the Reverends Wilhelm Gaertner, George Maul, H. Siegfried, C. Kramer, C. Lengtat, and F. J. Buschmann, each remaining for short periods of time only, and the church made a slow but steady growth.

During the pastorate of Reverend A. Grabowski, 1898-1901, the first pipe organ was installed. Later in 1911, when the old church building was removed, the organ was taken apart, each pipe marked and labeled, and stored in the attic of the parsonage. When the new church was finished, it was bought out and carefully rebuilt by Mr. Everett Reynolds, who was skilled in repairing musical instruments.

A Changing Society

With the turn of the century, the language question caused concern. Just as earlier the older people had wanted to preserve the German language in their worship services, now the younger people wanted to change to the English language.

Other records note Chr. Stech served as Pastor from 1901 – 1903.

When Reverend Daniel Buchmueller came in 1903, he began having English services on Sunday evenings, however, when he left in 1906, the Reverend August Bender became the pastor and he could not speak English, so these services were discontinued.

Early Pastors of St. Paul Evangelical Church in Pinckneyville, IL



Rev. H. Siegfried
1885

Rev. F. J. Bushman
1893-1898

Rev. A. Grabowski
1898-1901

Rev. Daniel Buchmueller
1903-1906

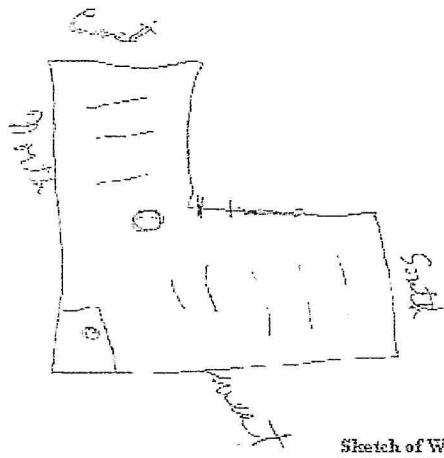
Rev. F.H. Mittendorf
1909 - 1913

In 1909 the Reverend F.H. Mittendorf was called as pastor and the English services were again resumed. The old parsonage was no longer satisfactory, so a new house was built for the pastor's home and dedicated in 1910.

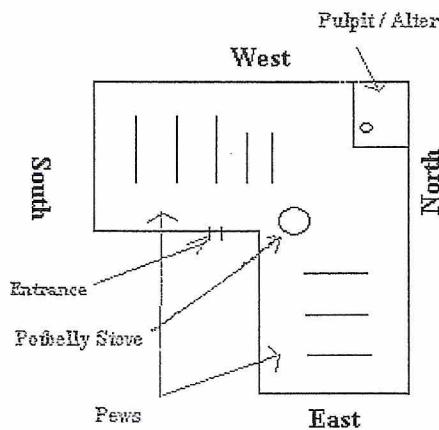
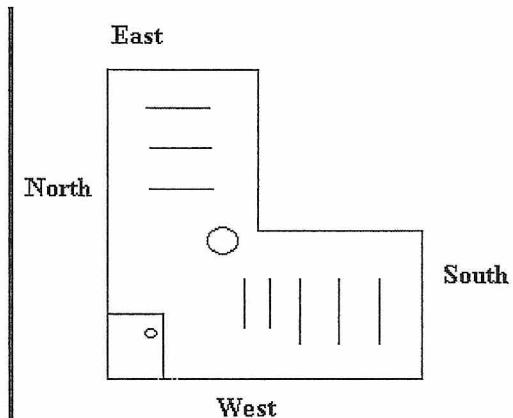
White Walnut Chapel

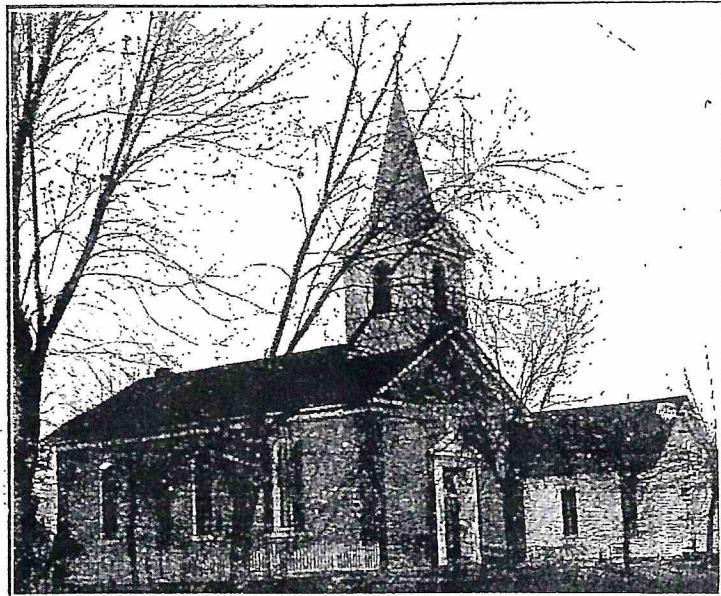


St. Peter's Evangelical, White Walnut Church



Sketch of W.W.
by Euclid Brostmeyer





St. Paul's Evangelical Church.



Deutsche Gottesdienste

1, 3, 4 u. 5 Sonntag
im Monat um 10:30

English Services

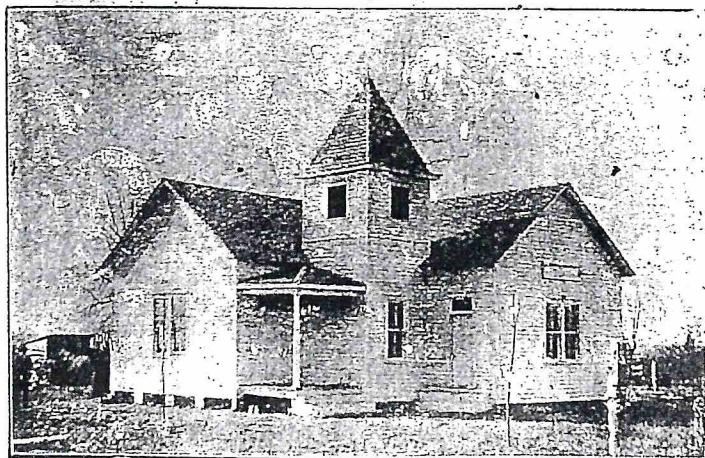
2nd Sunday Morning in the Month and
on the 1, 3 and 5 Sunday evenings.

Services at White Walnut

2nd and 4th Sunday afternoons.

Rev. F. H. Mittendorf, Pastor

— Phone Call No. 63 —



St. Peter's Evangelical Church

Social Dinner at White Walnut

"This picture was taken at the White Walnut church shortly before it was closed. It must be about 70 years old. (circa. 1925) The young people from the mother church attended a get together dinner. I don't remember many of the names. There may be some one who can. Mr. Albers and Alfred Valentine are possibly among those seated on the left."

- Irma Timpner, 1995



The picture right also appears to be taken on the White Walnut entrance way. Most likely a confirmation class, undated but must have been circa. 1911-1935. Perhaps there is someone left who can identify these persons as well.



Now, due to the interest of a group of church members who lived in a rural area, northeast of town, a sister church, the "White Walnut Chapel" was built and held dedication exercises on May 28, 1911. The exact location of where the small country church sat at is today addressed as 5093 White Walnut Rd., across from the corner of White Walnut and Canary Rd. Once the church had been constructed, a name fitting to that of St. Paul, "St. Peter's Evangelical Church" was proposed and dedicated. The name of St. Peter, however did not stick for but a couple years and the country chapel was from then on referred to by its location name. The traveling pastor conducted services at both places; leading morning worship services in town, and arriving at White Walnut in the afternoon.

Residing ministers of the sister church included Reverends Mittendorf, Higgemeyer, Brink, Friz, Reiss, and Schroedel. This country church was a primitive structure with no running water or electricity and an apt-for-repair outhouse used as a restroom. The interior heating system was an illuminating potbelly stove which gave off a bright red glow during winter evening services. A few Maple Trees surrounded the modest meeting place that surprisingly, was said to hold up to 75 – 100 people on an average Sunday.

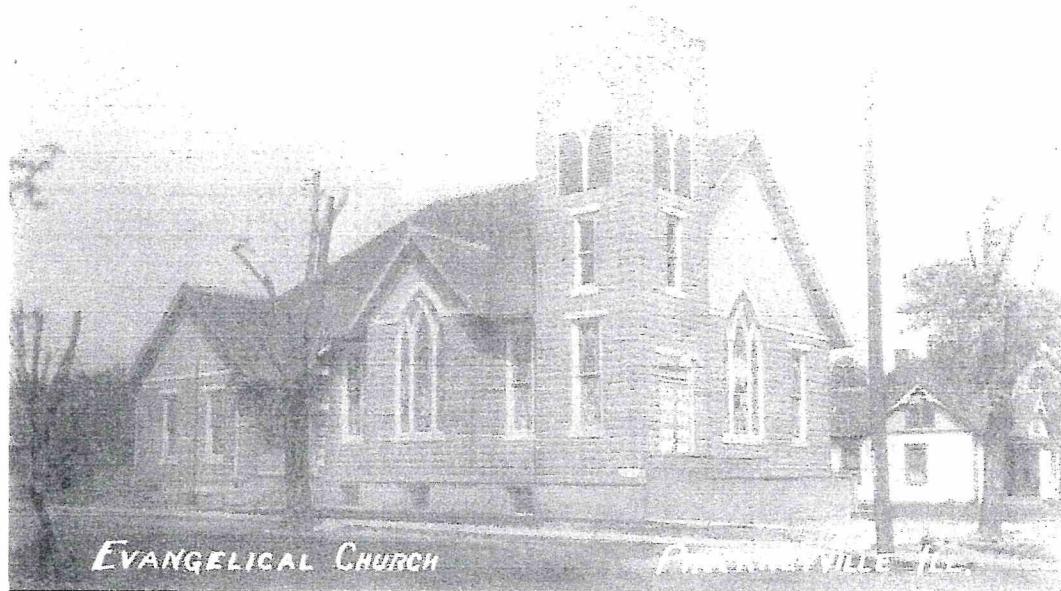
This venture of a second church proved very successful and fulfilled a need until 1935. With improved roads and methods of transportation, the people of White Walnut decided to come to Pinckneyville to worship, and services were discontinued there. When the church was no longer used, Henry Marlow, with the help of his brothers and a nephew, dismantled the White Walnut Chapel, pulled the nails from the heavy oak lumber, hauled it on wagons to his home site and built a house in which he lived for many years. (*Memories of the House of the Lord p.19*) The bell, which on Sunday afternoons had called the members to worship, was sent to the Back Bay Mission Church in Mississippi.

Today, everything is gone from the remnants of the church at the White Walnut site. A 2004 search of the area found that the circular brick flower bed on the front lawn of the Mr. Dennis Kellerman home marks the spot of the congregation's former worship place.

Our Second Church

Plans had been made for a larger building in the year of 1910. Much growth was experienced at this time and the little brick church was not adequate. It was decided to build a new larger house of worship, which was dedicated in 1912. The old school building was annexed to the church and became known as the "lecture room" and was used many years for Sunday School classes and organizational meetings. During one of the "building times", perhaps the 1912 construction, services were held in the Perry County Court House. Services held at the courtroom required some people to sit in the jury box. One is led to ask the question of "Who might be on trial in such a situation?" "The Minister?, The Church?, Our Christian Faith?"

Construction of the Second church completed and in 1913 the statue, "Christ of the Benediction", serving as alter, first looked out over the people of St. Paul.



The Second Church – Taken after construction completion in 1912



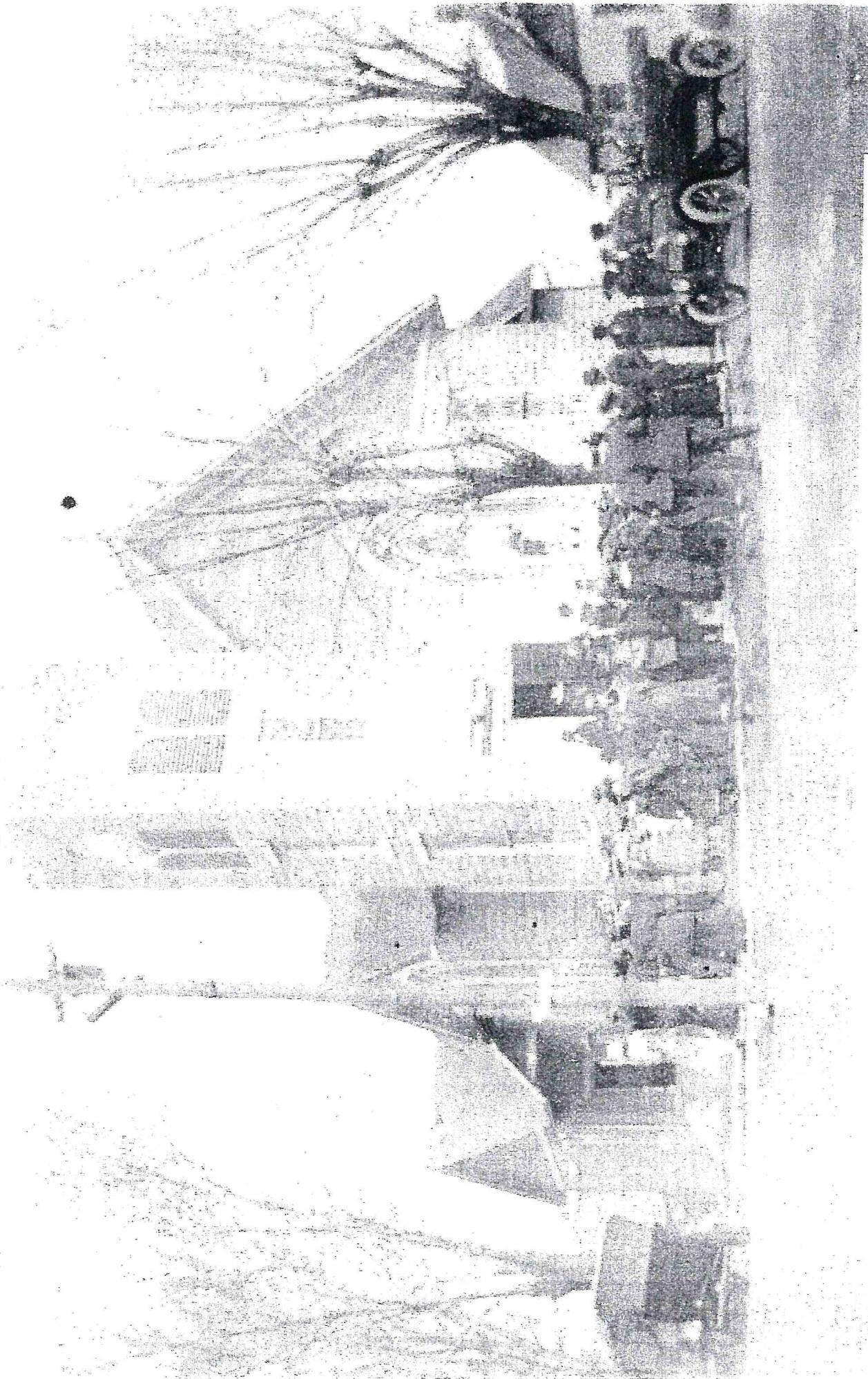
Rev. O.W. Heggemeyer
1913-1917



Rev. Ed Brink
1917-1920

Reverend O.W. Heggemeyer was pastor from 1913 to 1917, and the Reverend Ed C. Brink from 1917 to 1920. These were the difficult years of World War I. In spite of this and some remaining problems of the language change over, the church made a steady growth in membership. During this time an electric motor for the organ was installed. Until now it had been necessary for some obliging boy or young man to pump it manually.

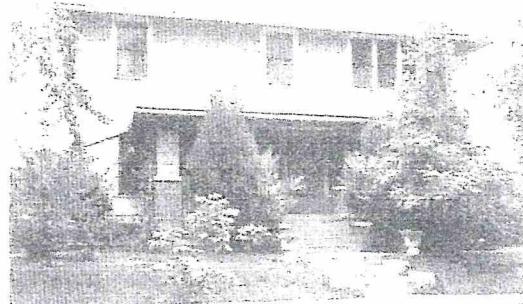
The Reverend Adolf Friz was our pastor from 1920 to 1927. In 1922 the South Illinois Conference of pastors and delegates was held here from May 10th to 15th in St. Paul's church.



St. Paul Evangelical Church
Pinckneyville, Illinois
1920-27



Rev. Adolph Friz
1920-1927

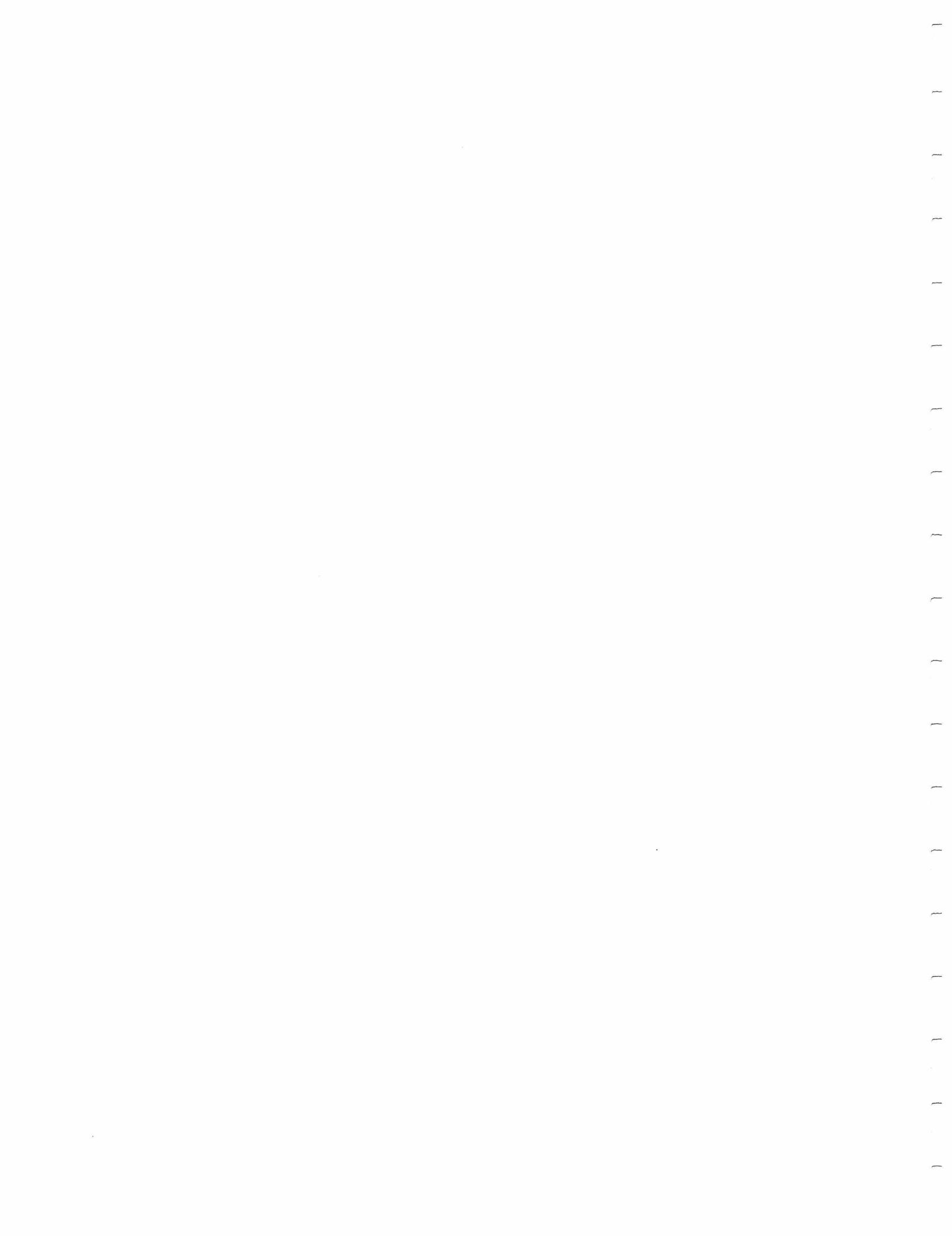


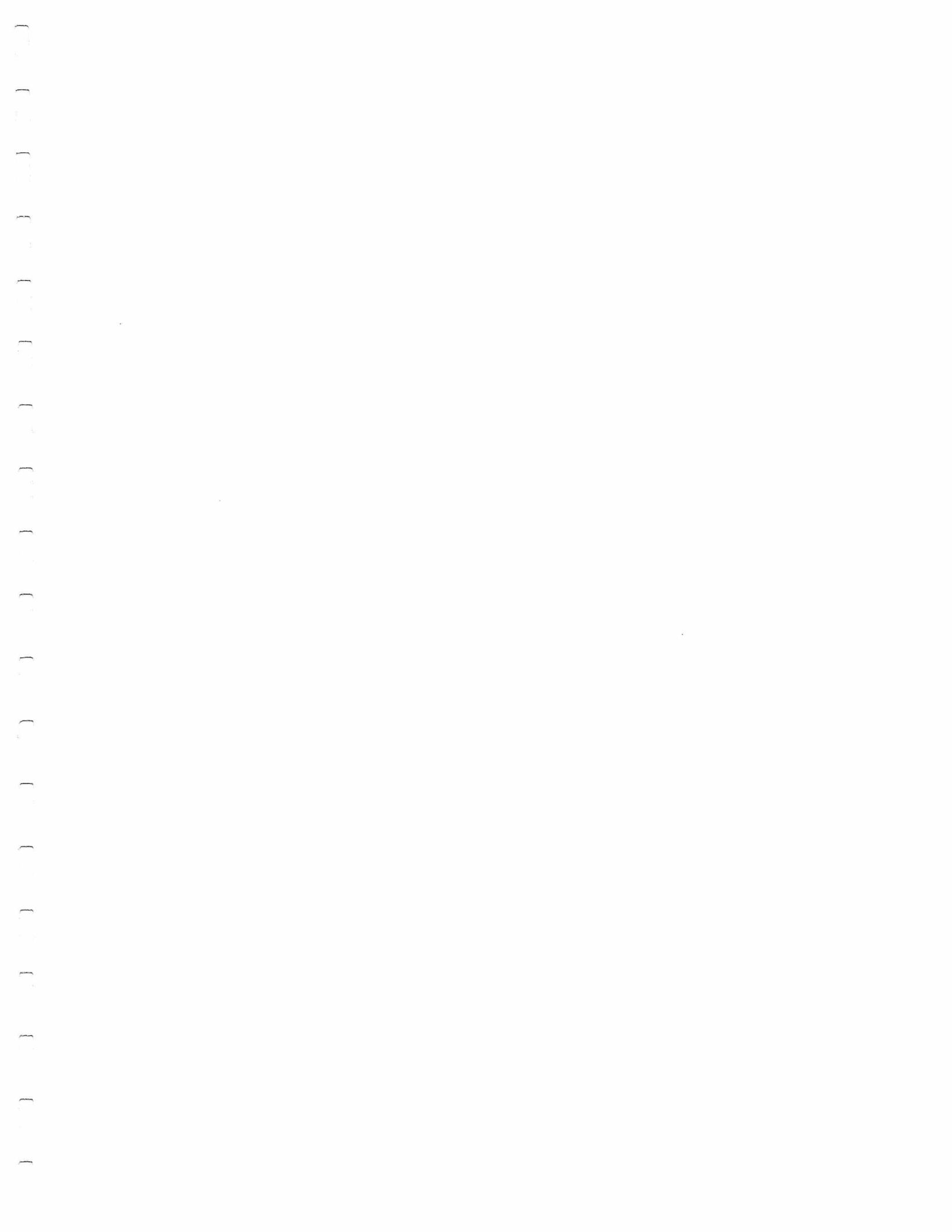
Our Second Parsonage

One hundred fourteen churches were represented and the people of Pinckneyville, including many whom were not members of the Evangelical church, opened their homes to the visitors and provided lodging for them. Noon and evening meals were prepared in the church basement by the ladies of the church. It was reported that the visitors were loud in their praise of the people of Pinckneyville and St. Paul's church for their gracious hospitality.

In 1925 the parsonage was remodeled and made larger, a second story added, and stucco siding put on. Also during the Rev. Friz employment, the Sunday School room was built from the old church school building that stood north-east of the church. Inside it had two large doors that could run up and made the church auditorium larger. We began having Daily Vacation Bible School and Teacher Training classes were held. This was a great step forward in promoting a religious educational program, which has been successfully followed throughout the life of the church. The Pinckneyville Advocate Newspapers note the parsonage was built in 1927.

Once upon a time, a Young People's League was functioning rather successfully in the life of the congregation. Yet, where there is a lack of leadership and support any organization collapses. When St. Paul's Evangelical Church during the interim from November, 1927 until July, 1928, attempted to carry on the regular church-work without a resident-pastor, the congregation experienced many set-backs. For instance, The Young People's League dissolved and disappeared in December, 1927 (according to official records). The Junior League likewise became extinct, because it lacked internal cohesion. The primary reason for the disbanding of the Junior League was that the boys and girls in general could not get along with one another. Nevertheless, the Junior League had served its day and age. It had died a natural death. For a time afterward, there was a resurrected girls club at the church under the caption "Light-Bearers", and likewise a boy's group titled, "Evangelical Pioneers for Christ".





Members of St. Paul's Evangelical Church

Pinckneyville, IL circa. October 22, 1933

This photograph was taken in 1933, during the Rev. Schroedel Ministry and sent to the Illinois Pictorial Supplement of the St. Louis Post Dispatch for the October 22, 1933 issue. We still assume this is a photo of the members who joined in 1933 through ways other than confirmation; however, the number of people in the picture does not match the number of names in the 33' adult membership list.

This list was found on an old sheet of paper attached to an original copy of the photograph in the church vault. The first list was written in black ink and blue ink as additions from a later writer. Information in Red ink was obtained by various 2003 interviews.

Top Row left to right

1. Henry Winter
2. Walter Mohr
3. Ida Loos
4. John Loos
5. Fred Swartzkopf
6. Louis Brandt
7. Minnie Heisner
8. Charlie Heisner
9. Rev. Martin Schroedel
10. Elsie Mohr
11. Ed P. Mohr
12. Fred Dippel
13. Helen Dippel
14. Ernie Goetz
15. John Becker
16. John Swartzkopf
- 2 ↗ (Henry Schade)

2nd Row, seated left to right

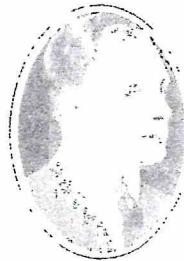
17. Lorraine Engelhardt
18. Lula Albers
19. Caroline Swartzkopf
20. Leta Swartzkopf
21. Elizabeth Waford
22. Mrs. Edward (Pearl?) Waford
23. Jessie Winter
24. (Mrs. Marion) Dehne?
25. Ester Frederking
26. Ann Hottes
27. Emma Mohr
28. Lottie Birkner
29. Mrs. Minnie Becker
30. Olive Hepp
31. Luciel Goetz
32. Elsie Brandt

Front Row, seated on ground from left to right

33. John Hepp
34. Arthur Engelhardt
35. Charlie Marlow
36. Carlos Wafford
37. Arthur Valentine?
38. Clarence Birkener
39. Louis Hottes



The Reverend Arthur E. Reiss served as pastor from 1928 to 1932.



Rev. A. Reiss
1928-1932

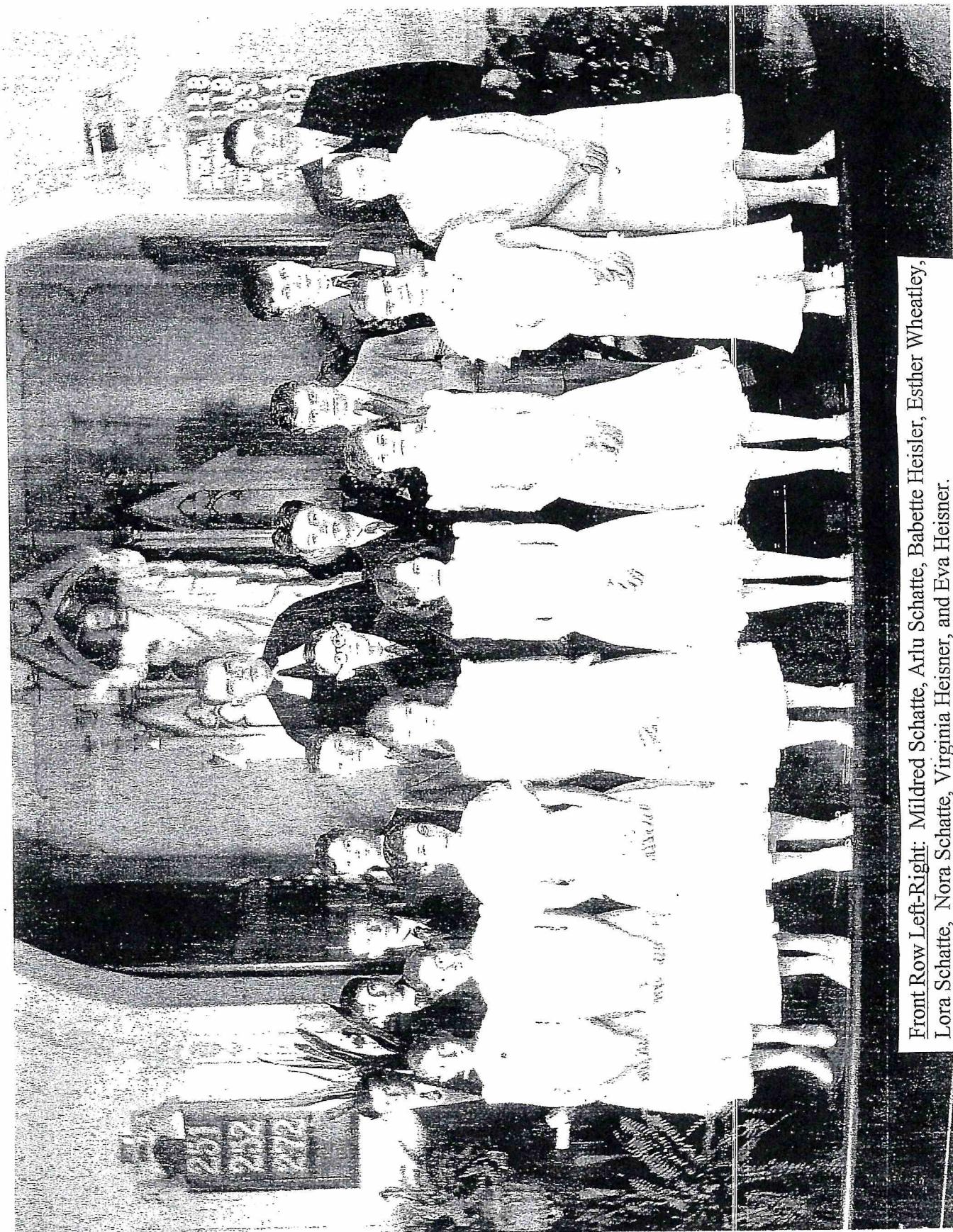
There had been a Ladies Aid Organization since its origin in 1877 under the leadership of Reverend John Klick, and an Auxiliary group of women known as the Concordia Society since 1899. However, it was in 1929 that the two groups were officially united, and a decision was made to retain the name "Ladies Aid" as the representative women's organization of the church. Also, in 1929 our first church choir was organized for the purpose of beautifying and enriching the church services, and for developing a greater appreciation of and for music. Officers of the original choir were President, Mrs. Charles Ritter; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Lucille Joest, and Mr. Charles Zahn, the official organist.

The year of 1930 was cherished as a Holy and precious year, the one in which the church celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of its affiliation with the Evangelical Synod of North America.

Many changes had taken place and much good had been accomplished during those trying years. The original old brick buildings had been replaced by ones of more modern construction. A cement block church edifice with beautiful stained glass windows, some of which were memorials to former members who had pioneered the German Church. Also, the previously mentioned parsonage, adjacent to the church.

In 1932 the Reverend Martin P. Schroedel was called as pastor and moved into the parsonage with his family and remained here until 1951. During that time the church progressed spiritually, financially, its membership increased, and many things were accomplished, although these were the years of the Great Depression, World War II, and the Korean Conflict.

1933 Confirmation Class of St. Paul Evangelical Church



Front Row Left-Right: Mildred Schatte, Arlu Schatte, Babette Heisler, Esther Wheatley, Lora Schatte, Nora Schatte, Virginia Heisner, and Eva Heisner.

Back Rows Left-Right: William C. Heisner, George Caviglia, Roy Nederbrook, Raymond Grohman, James Maxwell, Rev. Martin P. Schroedel, William Ulrich, Russell Goo. *Engelhardt*, Dehne, George Engelhardt, Charles Hopp, and William A. Heisner.

1933

Russell

AY, NOVEMBER 19, 1937

NUMBER 46

St. Paul's Evangelical Church A Pillar In The Community For Sixty-Seven Years

First German Church To Be Organized In The City And The
First Pastor Was Rev. George Goering.

In the year 1868, a group of devout Germans laid plans to build a German church in Pinckneyville, the first to be organized in the city. In the course of time a substantial building was erected and it was

thrown open to all who desired to worship there. The first minister was Rev. George Goering of the Missouri Synod. Following him, Rev. John Maul was pastor for awhile but could give only part time,

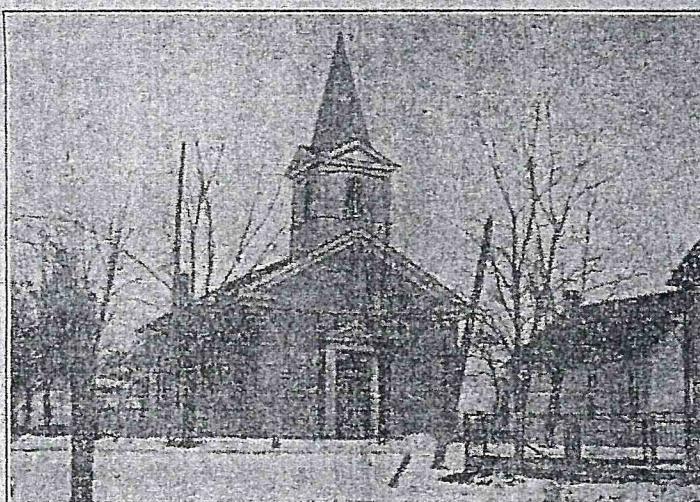
so Rev. Albert Zeller of the German Evangelical Synod was called for full time. This was all in the year 1870, so this year may be termed the "critical period," but they came through on solid ground. The charter members were: Louis Jung, George Huth, Jacob Zund, Peter Looe, Peter Jung, John Hepp, Charley Hoffman, Baltasar, Gerctenschlager, Jacob Leos, Henry Drehmeyer, John Valentine and John Loos, all of whom have done their work and gone to the reward of their fathers. Many of their descendants, however, are living as good citizens in the community.

A school was established but as the public schools grew, they abandoned it and sold the building. As the congregation grew, a new building became necessary, so the old one a picture of which we present was torn down in 1912 and the present commodious structure was built to take its place. The main auditorium will accommodate over 400 and in addition there are a Sunday School Hall and several rooms for departmental work. In addition to this it has a modern basement with a fine kitchen and dining room. In addition to this, the church owns a nice parsonage, a picture of which is shown. It was built in 1927.

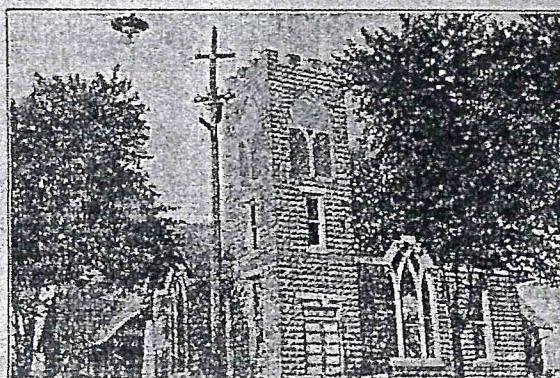
The present pastor is Rev. Martin P. Schroedel, a very devout man, useful, not only to his church but to the entire community.

The list of ministers bridging the chasm of years since then and now is as follows:

Rev. George Goering 1870



First Church Building 1870





Parsonage 1927

LIFE OF THE PARTY AT CAPITOL THEATRE

Dick Foran, the singing cowboy is back at the Capitol Theatre Saturday night in "Prairie Thunder." The midnight show, "Public Wedding," is a whale of a comedy with Jane Wyman and William Hopper, getting married at a street fair. Sunday and Monday, Bing Crosby and Martha Raye, in another big musical hit, "Double or Nothing," Matinee Sunday at 2:30, Tuesday's attraction is, "The Footloose Heiress," starring Craig Reynolds and Ann Sheridan. Watch for further announcements. Double features Wednesday. The Jones family in "Hot Water," followed by Warner Oland in "Charlie Chan on Broadway." Coming Thursday and Friday, "Life of the Party" a comedy of music, love and laughter, with this famous cast, Joe Penner, Gene Raymond, Parkyakarkus, and Helen Broderick. Added attractions are Mickey Mouse comedy and Fox News. Matinee Thursday 2:15.

PAST OFFICER'S NIGHT

The Eastern Star, will hold its regular meeting in the Masonic Hall tonight, and observe Past Officer's night, and observe Past Officer's the chairs.

... TOWER CLOCK, 10/14-1874.

Rev. F. Kaufman, 1874-1876.
Rev. John Klick, 1876-1882.
Rev. Wilhelm Goertner, 1882-1884.
Rev. John Maul, 1884-1885.
Rev. S. Seigfried, 1885-1886.
Rev. V. Kramer, 1886-1890.
Rev. C. Lengtau, 1890-1892.
Rev. F. J. Buschmann, 1893-1898.
Rev. A. Grabowski, 1898-1901.
Rev. Chr. Stech, 1901-1903.
Rev. Daniel Buchmueller, 1903-1906.
Rev. August Bender, 1906-1909.
Rev. F. H. Mittendorff, 1909-1913.
Rev. O. W. Heggemeyer, 1913-1917.
Rev. E. C. Brink, 1917-1920.
Rev. Adolph Fritz, 1920-1927.
Rev. Arthur E. Reiss, 1928-1932.
Rev. Martin P. Schroedel 1932—

In 1935, Charles Hincke placed a fine clock in the tower as a memorial to his mother, Mrs. Mary E. Hincke.

The church records show that there have been 1230 baptisms, 824 confirmations, 408 weddings and 643 deaths among its adherents within the last 67 years.

The church is carrying on in a fine way and on November 21 to 26, Dr. Rufus Zartman will speak in the church. These members of the church are serving the denomination in other fields; Rev. Leonard Todd, pastor at Feldon, Ill., and Miss Esther Shutte, commissioned worker, serving in the Home Mission office, St. Louis, Mo.

The present board members are: Alfred Valentine, president; Arthur Heisler, vice president; Louis Brandt, secretary; Walter Hammond, financial secretary; Marion Schneider, treasurer.

Other church officers: Miss Marie Schutte, Sunday school superintendent; Mrs. Lizzie Motzenbacher, president Ladies' Aid; A. H. Zahns, president brotherhood; Kenneth Scherle, president Young People's League; Mrs. Wm. Timpner, president Electa Class; Miss Mary Isabel Parker, organist; Mrs. Helen Dippel, president choir.

PIE SUPPER AT BRICK SCHOOL

There will be a program, box and pie social, given by the 4-H club, Friday November 20, at the Brick School.

Ladies' Night At The Lion's Club

The Lion's Club observed Ladies Night Tuesday, and the members with their feminine guests totaling about forty-five, met in the social hall of the Green Tea Room, where they were served a tempting dinner at seven o'clock. After dinner a reading was given by Mrs. Max Hanson, and then a guessing contest furnished the entertainment for the ladies while the regular business meeting was held.

Bridge and pinochle were the diversions for the remainder of the evening, with lovely prizes being awarded to the winners.

BOY LOST IN HILLS

The 7 year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Maynor of the Eddyville community failed to return when sent after the cows late in the evening a few days ago. He was found the next morning in the Pope County hills, hungry and frightened, his dog by his side.



Rev. Martin P. Schroedel
1932-1952

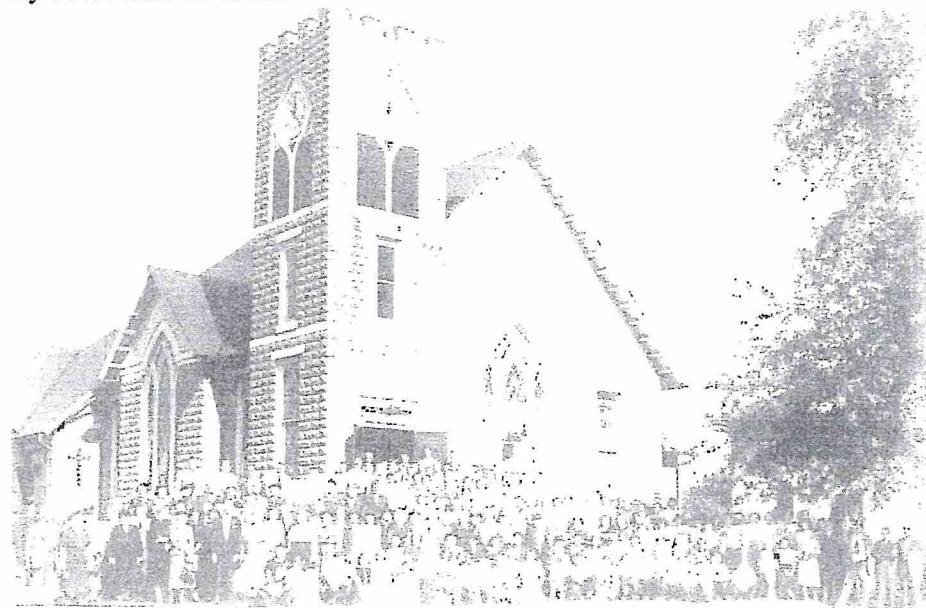


Rev. Eugene Jensen
1952-1954

On August 5th, 1934, the men who were interested in group meetings, and to promote fellowship in the church organized the Churchmen's Brotherhood. This group was active until around the 1970's, and contributed many benefits to the church.

Also, in 1934, the Electa Class was organized by the younger women of the church as a Sunday School class on Sunday and as a social group which met on the second Tuesday evening of each month. By the year 1970, the Electa Class only met as a Sunday School class and had joined with all women of the church into a large organization known as the "Women's Guild" (1939) which, at that time, met the second Wednesday evening of each month and included the original "Ladies Aid".

Mr. Charles Hincke placed a fine clock in the tower as a memorial to his mother, Mrs. Mary E. Hincke in 1935.





THE DEMOCRAT

THE PEOPLE'S NEWSPAPER

PINCKNEYVILLE, ILLINOIS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1949

NO. 38

Santa Claus Slated For Visit Next Saturday!!

1,000 Earmarked For Industry, Civic Good

C. of C.

**AND KEENE AGAIN
WED PRESIDENT OF
C. OF C.**

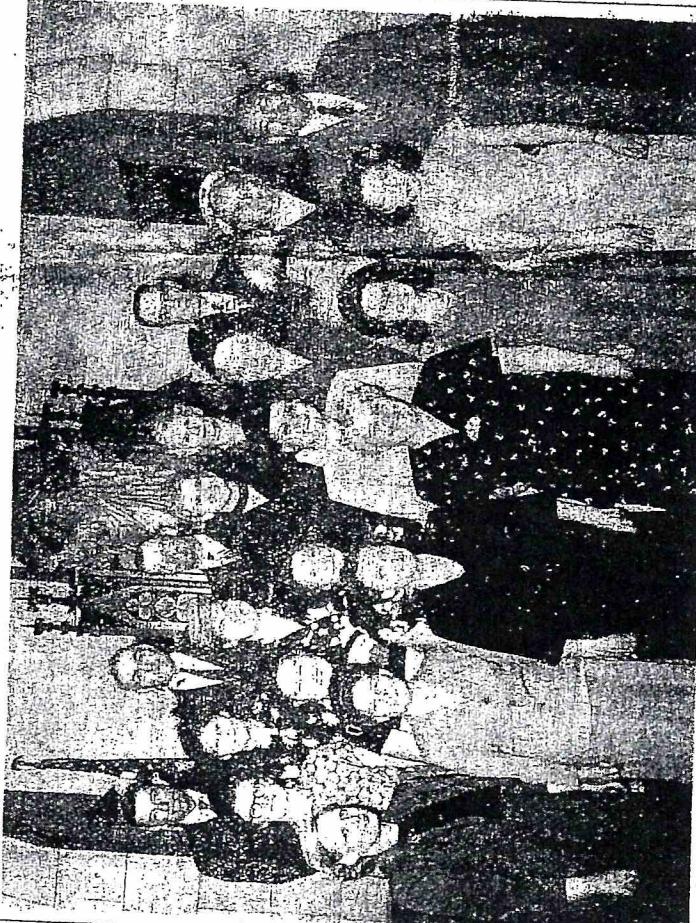
land Keene, PCHS principal partner in a local construction company, last night was re-elected president of the Chamber of Commerce. Kenneth W. Hiller was re-elected vice-president. C. H. Dinken was re-elected secretary. Henry D. R. Hammack and W. A. Haworth were re-elected to the Board of Directors and Dean Bartle re-elected to the Board.

Keene announced a recommendation by the Budget Committee \$7,000 in Government bonds for the Chamber be ear-marked for the Chamber of Commerce Fund for Industrial and Civic Improvement. The \$7,000 includes a bond the treasurer has been led to buy. Keene said that he later named a committee to for industrial development improvement.

At the business meeting, Mr. Keene read the annual financial report on finance of the Chamber. Marif Gras, Chairman of the Budget Committee, read the report of the Board of Directors. The meeting, with the exception of the Budget Committee, was adjourned.

The Chamber has an amount up in election to create a hospital. The Chamber has the Community Hospital. It is the hope that body will turn claims and assets of the hospital over to a group named to administer the hospital if and when the hospital is established. Tentative plans for an election sometime in 1950 and the territory to be covered.

Thurs. Dec. 8/47, St. Paul's Sunday School Teachers



**Mayor, Council Talk
Revenue, Give Cold
Shoulder To Meters**

**COMMISSIONER FANNIN
ONLY CITY DAD COMING
FOR CURB-SLOTS**

Pinckneyville's mayor and city council are to be congratulated for bringing the facts of the city's financial plight right out where it belongs ... before the people, in The DEMOCRAT.

Although it took a controversial incident like the parking meter fuss to reveal the facts and figures, it can at least be said that nothing is now hidden. The city is in debt to the tune of \$12,000; its credit has been shut off and the administration as representatives of the people is faced with the job of getting things back on a paying basis by erasing that debt.

The DEMOCRAT is not in a position to say whether or not the \$12,000 indebtedness could be avoided. The newspaper has no breakdown, dollar for dollar, of city expenditures. All The DEMOCRAT knows is what the city books show and what the mayor and city commissioners have said about the debt.

Commissioner Cunningham blames carelessness and failure of the city to utilize or even to collect the cash dollar they should gather into the fold ... The mayor and City Attorney, Harry Farney, apathetic, long-suffering, sympathetic, down-in-the-dust, fed-up, underprivileged, and, bright-eyed, and materials got so high.

Whatever the cause, the taxpayers will have anxious eyes on city government in the future. They have awakened from their lethargy and are going to want to know what goes on at city hall. And that is as it should be. That is the way the mayor has said he would have it.

Santa Claus Slated For Visit Next Saturday!!

**Jaycees Make Date
With Xmas Man; News
Reporter Interviews**

FLASH

Jaycee President Robert Bartle today announced that Santa Claus has wired his organization to expect him in Pinckneyville via Illinois Central Railroad on Saturday, December 17th at 11:35 a.m.

The Jolly Saint Nick is resting in his residence for the heavy Christmas Eve business and decided to use the I.C. as the next best method of reaching Pinckneyville. He will be met at the station by Jaycees, by the children of Perry County, the PCHS Band and the Fire trucks with city dignitaries aboard.

Watch The DEMOCRAT for further details next week.

But make a date to meet Santa Saturday the 17th at the depot and downtown in PINCKNEYVILLE.

**SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT—
NORTH POLE**

By A. Staff Correspondent
When the writer finally gained an audience with Santa Claus, up to his white eyebrows in Christmas decorations, he found the old man, Miss Eugene Heinrich, Miss Eileen Goldinan, Mrs. Freda Timper, Mrs. M. P. Schroedel, Rev. Schroedel, pastor, Alfred Valentine, Miss Anna Schroedel, Mrs. Adam Engelhardt, Mrs. Wm. McIntyre, Mrs.

Henry Rabe, Mrs. John Schweitzer and Herman Strauch, DEMOCRAT STAFF PHOTO.

Candidates For Big

**Out-Of-State Mail
Deadline 10th**

Mr. guess, "bomed the jovial voice of the Santa Claus, Tim, about the only fellow who can drop in on Washington, D. C. in a red suit and, not be called a Communist."

Then he roared with laughter, "Then the mayor has said he would have it."

During our 75th anniversary year (1945), the old one manual organ was rebuilt into a new Wick's two-manual organ with seven sets of pipes; several more sets would be added in years to come. It was an anniversary gift from the members, confirmants, and friends of St. Paul's to their church. A sound system was installed to help those who were hard of hearing. A gift of one member, dedicated to this cause, grew into hundreds of dollars. Loud speakers carried the sounds into all departments of the church building, and a tower amplification carried music and chimes through the neighborhood.

From Restoration to Renovation

As the congregation became larger, a semi-circular pew arrangement seemed insufficient for seating space. Plans were drawn up for remodeling and enlarging the church building, but because of the critical war years and restrictions on building; these plans were not consummated.

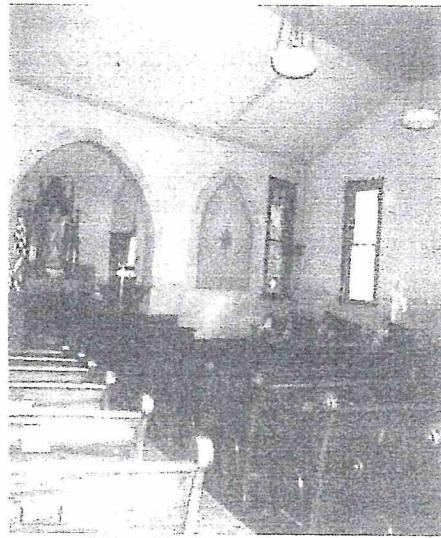
After the resignation of Reverend Schroedel in 1951, the Reverend Eugene T. Jensen came to minister to the congregation. By this time, progress had made it mandatory to provide more Sunday School room. A new parsonage on North Main Street was purchased. The old parsonage east of the church was converted into a worship center, and several classrooms located on both floors and in the basement.



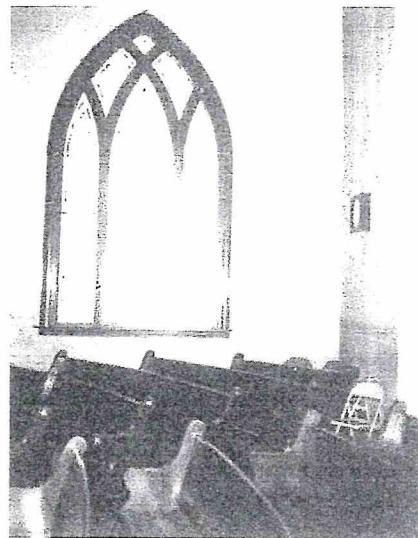
Our Classic Alter

Our Third Parsonage

The major renovation was made in 1953 when the church's seating arrangements were changed from the Akron plan with a semi-circular pew arrangement to a rectangular shape with a center aisle. The entire interior of the church was remodeled, the pulpit moved from the east to the north, the organ and choir were loft changed, and a Chapel room furnished with some of the old pews and the old altar. New pews, altar, pulpit, lectern, and carpeting were purchased.



View Facing East Wall



View Facing South Wall

Sanctuary Interior as it Appeared in 1952

The basement was enlarged and the kitchen re-styled and modernized, all for the cause of God's Greater Kingdom. While reconstruction took place on Jackson St., Sunday services continued at the local Capitol Movie Theater on Walnut Street, a building managed by George Ulrich. The statue of Christ from the east wall found a temporary home on the stage of the old show building for this time.

During the pastorate of Rev. Schulz, a group of ladies, who were interested in quilting, organized a club which met together each Wednesday for an all day session, bringing a sack lunch and enjoying the fellowship of being and working together. The finished quilts were sold and the proceeds used for various projects pertaining to St. Paul. As of the date of this publication, this group is still active as they continue working for the good of the church.

On Sunday, September 20th, 1953 the new interior was officially dedicated during the morning worship service, with former pastors assisting; the Reverend Daniel Buchmueller, (1903-1906) and the Reverend M. P. Schroedel, (1932-1951) (then President of the South Illinois Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and serving as pastor at Staunton, Illinois). The Reverend Fred Allrich, Vice-president of the South Illinois Synod, and pastor at Highland, Illinois, conducted the evening service.

Reverend Eugene T. Jensen's stay in Pinckneyville was for a short period of time, when he resigned to accept the challenge of building a new church in North Little Rock, Arkansas. He was replaced here by the Reverend Harold A. Schulz in 1954.

So much having been accomplished in the past few years and with no building or expansion in progress, there was very little publicity, though the church itself progressed spiritually and the membership increased substantially. In November 1956, the fall

conference of South Illinois Synod Brotherhood, with about four hundred men in attendance, was held here and dinner was served by the women of the church in the Pinckneyville High School gymnasium.

In 1957 the union of the Evangelical and Reformed church with the Congregational-Christian church became official and was named the "United Church of Christ", a denomination that in 38 years would have almost six million members.

Also in 1957, the Fulton property on the northeast corner of the block was purchased and removed from the lot, which from then on was used for the church parking lot. The Rice property on the northwest corner was also bought, making the entire block church property.

In 1958 the Christian Enlistment Program was observed with much success.

While many people have made outstanding contributions of loving service to St. Paul, we would like to lift up the name and person of Mrs. Frances Overton, who served several years as the church organist even though she was totally blind. She was very efficient and well educated. With assistance and the help of her Seeing Eye dog, she would transpose the music into Braille, reading the notes by feeling them with one hand and playing the organ with the other; then reversing the progress and practicing until each composition was committed to memory. Her husband was also blind; after his death she married another blind man and they resided in California in the 1970's.

Another of our former organists, Charles Zahn, moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa where he continued to maintain his interest in music until his death in November of 1985. Other organists include: Catherine Ritter, Isabelle Roethe, Betty Valentine, Rosemary Greer, Hazel Boettcher, Roger Engelhardt, Margaret Timpner, Amy Martin, and LaVern Klosterman.



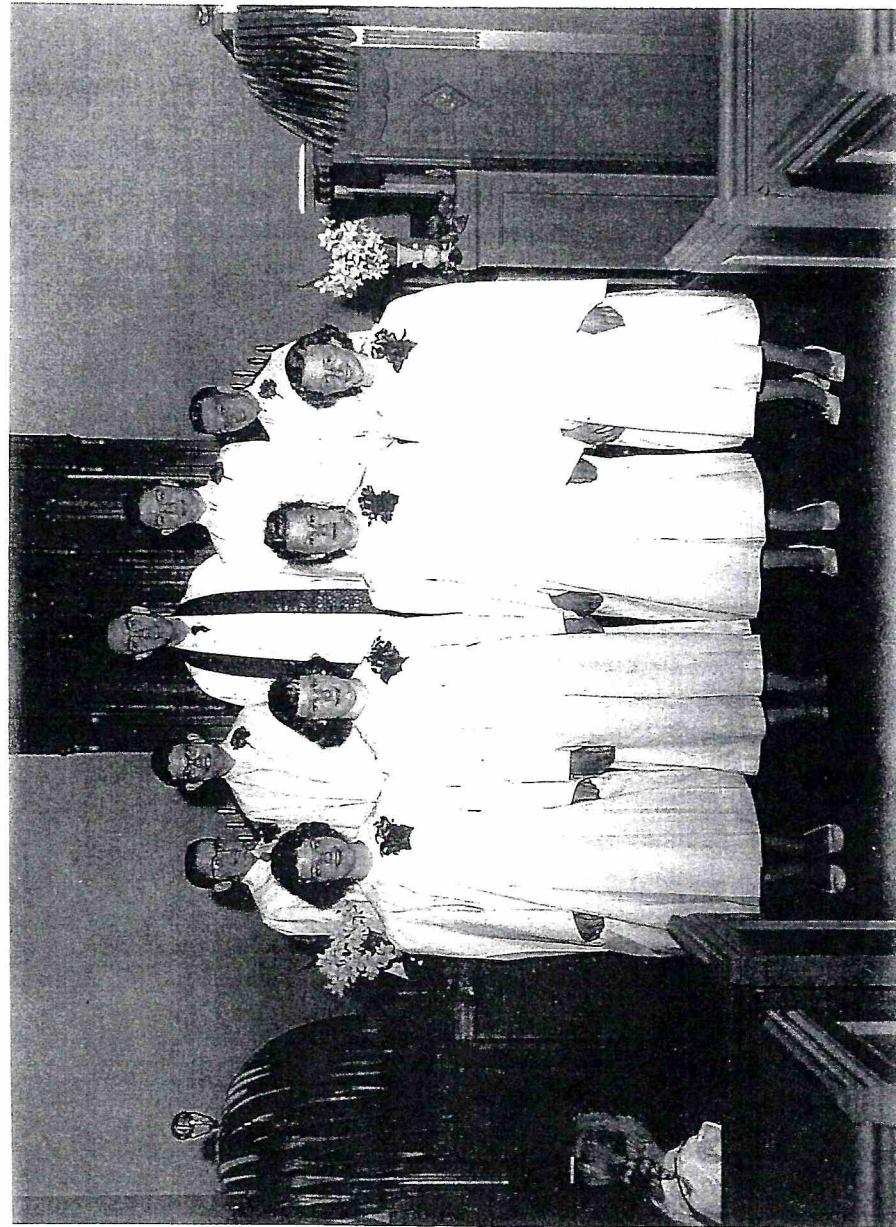
Rev. Harold Schulz
1954-1960



Rev. George Boettcher
1960-1968

Following the resignation of Reverend Schultz to accept the pastorate of a church in St. Louis, Missouri, the congregation unanimously voted to accept the Reverend George J. Boettcher to fill the vacancy (1960).

The 1957 Confirmation Class of St. Paul Evangelical and Reformed Church.
Front Row – Left to Right: Carolyn Crumbacher, Deloris Mohr, Jo Ann Greer, and Irma
Wildermuth. Back Row – Left to Right: Robert Filipsic, Jimmy Roberts, Rev. Harold
Schultz, Richard Engelhardt, and Leroy Feltmeyer.



A retired minister, Reverend August Warskow of Marion, Illinois served our church during the interim.

"Rise Up and Build"

Dreams of a new educational building had become effective by the starting of a building fund with a special offering on the first Sunday of each month.

These offerings continued until January 1961, when at the annual meeting, action was taken to make a concerted effort to raise \$20,000.00 in one year by voluntary contributions. On April 29th, 1962, the congregation voted by a large majority to build a Christian Education Building that connected to the church building. A committee was appointed and after much work and several estimates, the final plans were submitted as well as approved on November 4th, 1962. In November 1963, our church was informed that the late Mr. Edward R. Hincke, whose parents had been faithful members of this congregation, had remembered our church in his will with a generous bequest.

Bids were received on January 28th, 1964 and a contract let on February 9th to the Haage Construction Inc., Nashville, Illinois, with work to begin after May 15th, 1964. The old parsonage was removed from the lot on April 19th, 1964; the ground breaking ceremony took place following the morning worship service. A large crowd was in attendance as the corner stone was laid on Sunday, June 28th, 1964, and the new building was soon under construction after the ceremony.

During this time it had been discussed as to "Brick Facing" the church over the concrete blocks to match the Educational Building, and had been approved on July 26th, 1964, the contract also being let to Haage Construction Inc.

This was completed and dedicated on May 23rd, 1965, our 95th year. Gas, heat, central air conditioning, organ chimes, and many other items were added for convenience and comfort of the church buildings. The church bell, which now rings every Sunday, was received from the Pinckneyville Fire Department. Over the next four decades, the fellowship hall section of the new building would become hosting place to numerous enjoyable banquets, potlucks, concerts, wedding dinners, and special services.

Reverend Boettcher continued his ministry until July, 1968, when he announced his retirement, but graciously consented to serve as pastor until the arrival of a replacement at the end of three months.

The pulpit committee interviewed several available ministers and finally agreed to invite the Reverend Keith Klosterman, who was chosen. He and his family came to Pinckneyville and to St. Paul in November, 1968, from St. Jacob, Illinois, and would serve throughout 1970, our Centennial year.

WM. E. TIPPMER

THE JEWISH

Volume 94, Number 12

St. Paul's Education Building Corner Stone Ceremony



Sorority Outlines Plans For Miss Perry County

Pinckneyville, Illinois

Magic Circus For Kids A On Saturday



SIROS. AN
GIRL SHO
MISS LINE
JIM JIM T
\$50,000 HC
DEATHES
MYSTERIE
JUGGLERS
TOP T.V.,

“Great Magician stand feature many acts in the country and on the world's great circuits, with an array of acts up the large circuit in America, making its tour.

“Great Magician stand feature many acts in the country and on the world's great circuits, with an array of acts up the large circuit in America, making its tour.

William Says Larger District Could Help 3 P'ville Scouts To Jamboree At Valley Forge, Pa.

Three Pinckneyville Boy Scouts will take part in the 3 P'ville Scouts to Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pa.

Young Husband Drowns Friday In Canadian Lake, Fishing

People who live in glass houses shouldn't...The reason this column will be anonymous is obvious...don't want anyone after the scalp, as

St. Paul's Church Pastor, the Rev. George J. Boettcher is shown here in the act of putting the first mortar under the corner stone of the new education building in ceremonies last Sunday. Young accordian player in photo at left is David Winters. In background in photo at right is William Timpner Jr., president of the church.

Glass House

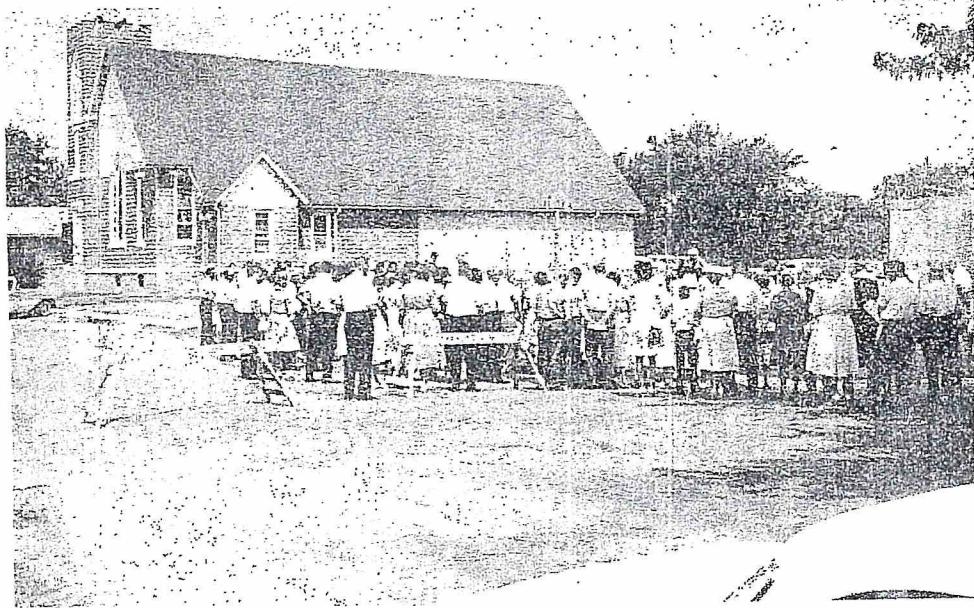
People who live in glass houses shouldn't...The reason this column will be anonymous is obvious...don't want anyone after the scalp, as

Elsworth Lollis, School administrators in Elsworth Lollis,

Three Pinckneyville Boy Scouts will take part in the 3 P'ville Scouts to Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pa.

ause a hole, iden a turn tor over and . Steep slo- farmed with going up or lope, go up vent a back- the tractor in try to handle down such a only from the hitching to seat bracket or over back-

use of farm for much onsciousness the operator, farm family . Follow di- abel and keep als out of the n, preferably ts. Drugs and ing materials my child poi- tional Safety ore children s become ac- ing victims ge group. As- e most com- edies, is re- ore child poi- y other sub- iting for one ses and one- ities. Children old are most



Large Crowd Attends Corner Stone Ceremony

The congregation of St. Paul's United Church of Christ and guests gathered Sunday morning to witness the corner stone ceremonies. The event took place following regular Sunday morning services.

writing but here are
sults:

SOFT WHEAT
Var. - Test Wt. - Mois

Knox-62	62.0	11.0
Vermillion	61.0	12.0
Knox	61.0	11.9
Monon	59.5	12.3
Reed	61.0	11.6
Average of Soft Wheat		
HARD WHEAT		
Var. - Test Wt. - Mois		
Ponea	63.5	11.7
Pawnee	62.0	12.7
Omaha	60.5	13.0



for your compost potassium and phosphorus needed for legume. When "goes out", add pounds of nitrogen to keep grass pro- high level.

AUCOUP

Mrs. Wm. Craig
nd Mrs. Neil Cun-
lisited Saturday night
nd Mrs. Isaac Mar-

Mrs. Marion Rushing
Rushing Mr.

Swanwick, Mr. and Mrs. H. Wright and Mrs. Jim Wright and children Mark and Be-Ann all enjoyed home-made ice cream with Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Wright Thursday evening.

George Hutchings is in Metropolis this week working for Mr. Hargis at the fair. Linda Gayle Swain is staying with her grandmother Corne-ia Hutchings in his absence.

The pastor of the Friends' Church of Christ of Tama visited Tuesday morning with Mrs. Florence Leach.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Gillett and son Jeff, Mrs. Imogene Deal and Mrs. Florence Leach all enjoyed home made ice cream at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hawk Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. George Guenther from St. Louis, Mr. and Mrs. Emmerson Guenther from E. Peoria visited this week end with their mother Mrs. Ruth Guenther. They attended the Guenther Reunion that was held Sunday at Fairground Park.

Mrs. Fern Hawkins and daughter Judy and son Jeff were in Carbondale Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Dolly Hutchings of Tamaroa is visiting a few days with her daughter and Mrs. Clarence Marlow.

Mr. and Mrs. Melborne H. and family of Granite City visited last week in the home of his parents Mr. and Mrs. Loren Hill, returning home Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Kathryn Chapman and daughters Connie and Sally Linda Mathis visited Wednesday evening in the home of her brother Mr. and Mrs.

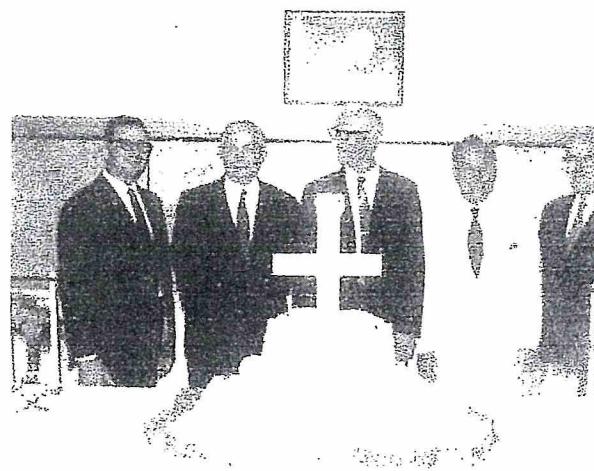


A new decade in our countries history brought heavy alterations and controversy. With these changing times, the St. Paul U.C.C. rules and regulations had started to become a little outdated; therefore, on January 25, 1970 the Constitution and By-Laws were amended.

Plans were made and a Centennial committee was appointed to work on various projects for the year. One of the most interesting highlights was a Pictorial Album that contained pictures of practically every member of the church and their families at the time, and the church's history from its beginning in 1870 to a Century later in 1970, as well as pictures of the various active organizations which contributed so much to the welfare of the church.

Plans were also made for a re-union of the confirmands of St. Paul Church. It was held on Pentecost Sunday, May 17th, at 2:00 P.M., with the Reverend Leonard Todd (1904-1982), a son of the congregation as the guest speaker. Reverend Todd served as pastor of the United Church of Christ at Moro, Illinois. A reception was held in the Fellowship Hall afterward, and those who attended had a chance to have the opportunity to visit together.

One noteworthy project was the furnishing of a room at the New Athens Home for the Aged when the then, "new" addition was completed. Appointed as chairman of the Centennial Committee, Mr. Eugene Shumaier contributed his time and effort preparing the main Anniversary Celebration, held on Sunday, August 30th, 1970, with services held in the morning, afternoon, and evening, sending invitations to former pastors who would be participating. The Reverends Jensen, Schulz, and Boettcher were the only ones still living at that time. Over 500 guests and members were noted to be gathered in worship at the celebration.



ON HAND TO HELP OBSERVE the 100th anniversary of the St. Paul, Pinckneyville, were Pastor Keith C. Klosterman, Former Pastors George Boettcher, Leonard Todd, a son of the congregation then at Moro, Ill, Pastor Eugene Jensen, and Conference Minister, Dr. Robert Tormohlen. The cake was baked and donated by Mrs. Bill Todd.

It may be of interest to note that of the ten sur-names listed as charter members, five of them: Hepp, Kunz, Loos, Valentine, and Yung were still carried on the church records by their descendants 100 years after this church first began.



St. Paul United Church of Christ - 1970

After the centennial celebrations, Reverend Keith Klosterman spent twenty-six years as pastor of the church. In honor of our country's bicentennial, a pictorial mural of St. Paul, depicting the history of the church, was painted by members and friends of St. Paul in 1976. During his nearly 27 years at the U.C.C. many events took place, including improvement of the back parking lot in 1977. The Epplin property across the street from the church was purchased, and a fourth & last parsonage was built there in 1978, free of debt. Later that year, a 78' church directory was printed on the occasion of Rev. Klosterman's 10th anniversary with St. Paul's church in Pinckneyville.



Rev. Keith Klosterman
1968-1995



Our Fourth Parsonage

During the late 1970's the church saw several productive groups succeed and flourish, just as the Parsonage Committee had in 1978. While the Electa and Men's Classes continued to meet every Sunday morning, The *We Dare U*, and the *Pairs and*



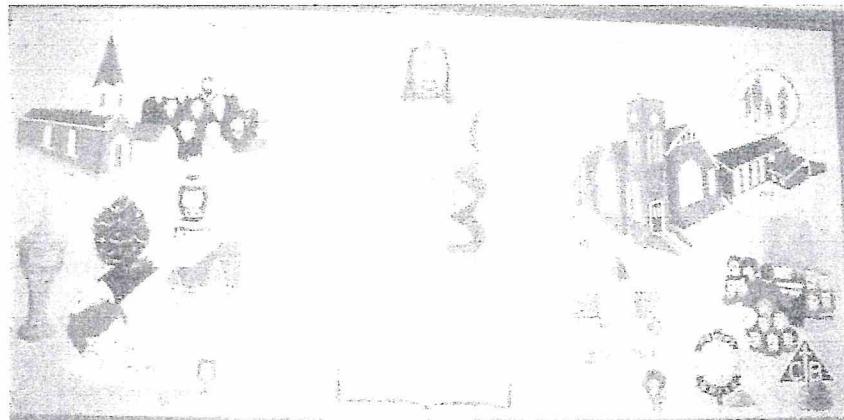
The 1976 Confirmation Class of St. Paul United Church of Christ, front row left to right, Larry Wild, Traci Mohr, Barbara Welch. Back row left to right, Judy Mohr, Bob Rennison, Rev. Keith Klosterman, Brenda Schumaier, Kirk Krug.

Spares Classes had already become successful adult Sunday School study groups, open to Christian men and women who yearned for knowledge on how to live virtuous lives. A total of three softball teams appeared on the playing field, calling themselves *The St. Paul* and *The U.C.C.* as well as a separate ladies softball league. Today their numerous trophies and athletic achievements span 24 years, dating from 1974 to 1998.



1988 St. Paul Softball Team

The 1980's brought many modifications to the worship structure. Redecoration of the sanctuary took place in April of 1986. Back in 1983, the walkway on the northeast entrance was carpeted in memory of the late, Arthur Zacher. Later in the decade, the 87' confirmation class unveiled a bulletin board along that walkway.



Historical Pictorial Mural of St. Paul

Saved From Total Destruction

Afternoons in the mid-1980s, the church could be found unlocked and occasionally children would come in and talk to Reverend Klosterman, asking for guidance in their everyday problems. These invitations continued until the day after Palm

roads were closed in Pike County fog cut the visibility to near zero

10-Year-Olds Arrested In P'ville Church Fire

By John H. Crossman

Managing Editor
Pinckneyville City Police, working in unison with Perry County authorities and State's Attorney Gene Gross have in custody two Pinckneyville 10-year-old girls who have admitted to setting a fire at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Pinckneyville.

The Perry County Sheriff's Department says the two girls have been turned over to their parents while the state's attorney's office considers juvenile action against them. Authorities say that when confronted, the girls did admit setting

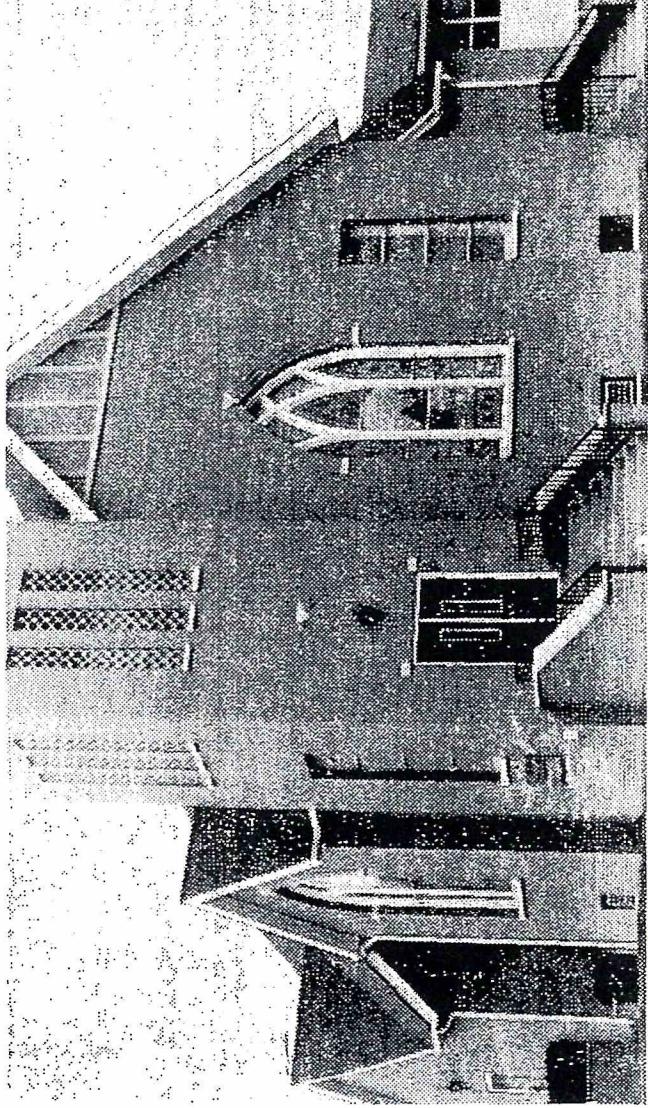
the fire that heavily damaged the church on the city's northeast side.

Firemen were called at 4:17 p.m. Monday to the blaze, begun in several sections of the church. Not only was the building damaged, but church officials found burned Bibles used to build the fire.

Church officials have put as much of the building back into shape as possible and will use the church for Maundy Thursday services tonight and 6 a.m. sunrise services and 10 a.m. regular services on Sunday.

The church also announced that a planned Saturday bake sale will be held in the garage of the church's parsonage across the street.

for many purchases.



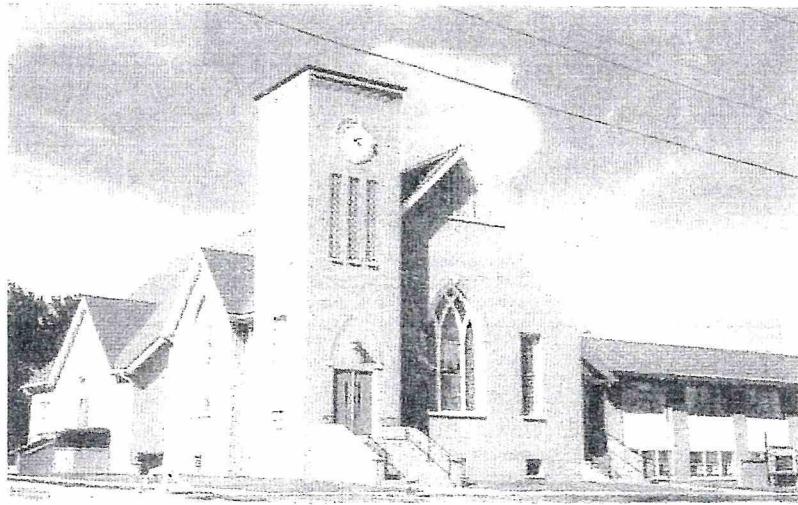
St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Sunday in April of 1987, when thirty-four fires were set in the church and educational building. Not only was the building damaged, but church officials were reported to have found burned bibles used to build the fire. Reverend Klosterman later recalled in the composition piece, *Memories of the House of the Lord*, "While sustaining considerable smoke and water damage, we are fortunate indeed that the structure remained intact. Our people rallied, working hard to clean up the initial mess so that we were able to hold our regularly scheduled Easter Services." After repairs and renovations were made a rededication service was held November 1st.

The next year, a 1988 directory book was composed. Similar to the 1970 and 1978 albums, the book contained photos & addresses of nearly all of St. Paul's members of the time. At this same time period, lightning struck the church tower, causing slight damage to tower chimes. Once again the Lord looked in favor upon place of worship, and spared it from the elements. August of that year, Saturday evening services had been tried with. These shortly-lived worship ceremonies were soon dropped for lack of interest.

Cooperative Vacation Bible School and Lenten services with the Pinckneyville Presbyterian and Methodist churches have proved as annually successful events. During the first Gulf War the U.C.C. shared in prayer services. By this time the building had become accessible to the community for blood drives and even a polling place.

Through his years serving as minister of St. Paul U.C.C., Reverend Klosterman spent much of his work and time involved with DuBois Center. In 1993, a surprise "25 years" celebration was held for his twenty-five years of ministry to the church. The organ chamber and public address system were updated in 1994.



The Second Church as appeared in the year of our Lord, 1995.



St. Paul United Church of Christ Softball Team – August 1993

Back Row

Jeff Keller
Brian Bender
Bill Van Timpner
Brain Mayer
Gary Schumaier
John Mucha

Front Row

Karen Timpner (Score Keeper)
Jim Crabtree
Ryan Schumaier
Jeremy O'Dell
Gary Timpner
Ralph Timpner
Kevin Mayer

3rd Place Trophy

The 125th Anniversary

The next year, Saint Paul United Church of Christ celebrated its 125th anniversary, which included a more up to date, 1995 directory book, an April 23rd service held entirely in German, and another confirmation reunion was held on June 4th at 2:00 P.M. Also in 95' the Fellowship Hall of the Educational Building was redecorated by carpeting and painting. At this time St. Paul had a membership of over 450 people.



Our 125th Anniversary Consistory

Early on Sunday morning, September 17, 1995, Rev. Keith Klosterman died of heart difficulties at age 63. Out of the over twenty-four ministers in the church's history, Rev. Klosterman served the longest to date (Spanning 27 years) and was the only pastor in recent memory of the Pinckneyville U.C.C. who served his term until his death (his last service being held on August 20, 1995). After he had passed away, memorials for Rev. Klosterman were added to the church, including DuBois Memorials and a Bradford Pair tree planted on the west side of the church building in his honor. Coping with the loss of our beloved leader was recorded as one of the most challenging tasks our congregation has ever had to face; for years to come he would dearly be missed by all who knew him.

The pastor's wife, LaVerne, continued to serve as church choir director until about 1997. Mary Ann Romans served as director from 1997-2000, and Mark McDaniel afterwards. Mrs. Klosterman however, continued an inspirational career as organist. Her contributions of time and talent have been greatly appreciated by St. Paul's congregation.

Interim Rev. Frances Grantz came from St. Louis, Missouri in January, 1996 and served for a full year until our church found a full time minister who was willing to take on active duty.



Rev. Mark and Leann Binder, Mark Jr. and Faith – 1997
(1997-2000)

The Reverend Mark Binder decided to join our church and he became minister in February, 1997. At that time, he and his family came here from Ceder Rapids, Iowa. Rev. Mark's educational biography included a BA in Religion and General Science and an MA in Religion and Health Sciences from the University of Iowa and a master of Divinity from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary he had received in 1985. His wife, Leanne had a teaching degree specializing in day care for young children. Rev. Binder served until his resignation in January, 2000.

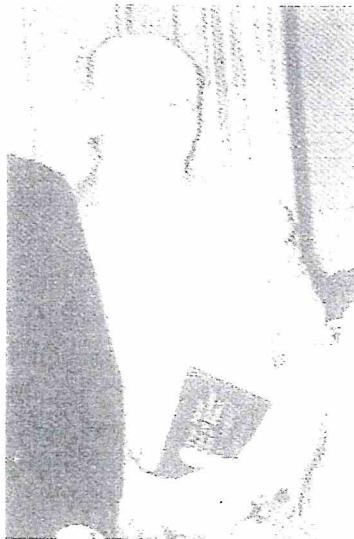
Dawn of a New Millennium

After Mr. Binder left Pinckneyville, several interim ministers served, including Rev. Robert H. Edwards, who during his short time as a fill-in minister, filled countless rows of vacant pews with visitors from his home town of Mascoutah, Illinois. With the St. Paul church turning 130 years old, it saw a second turn of a century and repairs were made to the parking lot, sanctuary roof, and stain-glass windows. Over the next few years, the house sound system would be revised and improved as well.

Finally, in mid. July of 2001, Pastor Karen Stahr Terada agreed to serve as an interim pastor. In its then, 131-year history Pastor Karen was the first and only official female minister to serve as an interim in the Pinckneyville, IL U.C.C. She stayed for a year, and held her last service on July 7, 2002.

With tension growing in the Middle East, community prayer services were held during the aftermath of September 11, 2001, War on Terrorism, and later for The War on Iraq.

On May 19th the congregation had voted for The Reverend Howard J. Self to become a full time minister. Pastor Howard then held his first worship service and became the 24th pastor of the church on July 21, 2002. The same day a vote was taken by the Congregation on weather the fourth Parsonage should be sold or rented because it had stood vacant for the past couple of years, Pastor Howard had a home of his own, and some noted that parsonages had started to become a thing of the past. In the end, the vote ruled to sell the Parsonage.



Pastor Howard J. Self
(2002-Present)

During the second half of the year, Pastor Howard "moved the church into the era of modern technology" by moving his office across the hall and into the lounge, bringing a fax machine and the Internet to St.- Paul, updating sound system equipment, and even setting up our own E-mail address. The old fashioned ways of contacting the building were still available. Letters were received and the office phone was still contacted despite the new means of communication. An installation service for Rev. Self was held on August 11, 2002 at 4:00 P.M. The service of installation brought the Pastoral Search Committee to a completion in their tasks and Pastor Howard has been the residing minister ever since.

Looking Ahead

It is nearly impossible to list all of the worthwhile projects our people have undertaken over the years. At the time of this writing the Church's Sunday School, Quilting, Choir, Women's Guild, and Youth Groups continue to display faith, love, and service. In earlier days the members of St. Paul had participated in memorable Churchyard Chicken Fries and Ice Cream Socials. Each year the people of this congregation have enjoyed constructing a church float for the annual Pinckneyville Mardi Gras parade and contribute their effort during the time of Vacation Bible School and on occasion we have had Bible Study groups. We have also worked with other churches and

The 2003 Confirmation Class of St. Paul United Church of Christ, left to right:
Seth Logsdon, Miles Priebe, Rev. Howard J. Self, Emily Cicardi, and Bryce Martin.



the community in crusades, blood drives, crop walks, and the Christian Children's Fund, just to name a few.

Even more recently, complicated issues concerning handicapped accessibility have become a great concern amongst the congregation. Possible future renovations to the structure have once again been thought through with much debate and discussion. Ventures in connection with the UCC in the past few years have included an Alzheimer's support group and even Contemporary Worship Services, both developed by our current pastor. Community worship services, Singspirations, and combined youth group activities have been held in fellowship with the Pinckneyville Methodist, Presbyterian, UCC, and Catholic churches. St. Paul Church is as active as ever in meeting the spiritual needs of its people as we openly welcome newcomers to our church family.

Our Purpose is to worship God, to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to celebrate the Sacraments; to realize Christian Fellowship and unity within the Church and the Church Universal; to render loving service toward humankind; and to strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

It may be of interest to note, that out of the twelve charter members, some of their descendants are among the 400 still in membership today, and just as Rev. Todd entered the ministry from our church as a son of the congregation, several of the daughters have married ministers or entered the nursing profession.

We feel a deep thankfulness and appreciation for our rich Christian heritage, and look forward to the faithfulness of the people of St. Paul in the years to come. Over the years, Saint Paul United Church of Christ in Pinckneyville, IL has seen: two millenniums, three centuries, several structural changes, nearly 30 pastors (including intrems), and 135 years of worship service. The 150th anniversary date of the church's foundation will occur on September 30, 2020.

May the Lord Jesus Christ be not only the "God of our Fathers" but also the "Living and Eternal God" whose Presence and Grace still continues to abide with us to inspire and control the living of all our days.

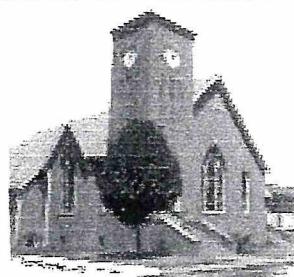
"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall praise Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts." (Psalms 145:3-4)

May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you All. AMEN!



St Paul United Church of Christ

Pinckneyville, Illinois



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Pinckneyville, IL 62274

Telephone number: 618-357-8075

Fax number: 618-357-6686

E-mail: stpaulucc@earthlink.net

Web site: None

Pastor Rev. Howard Self hjself@midwest.net

Worship Schedule Come worship with us at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday morning.

Sunday School Sunday School is just before worship at 9:00 a.m.

Come visit us St. Paul is a church rich in traditions and yet looking forward to the future. We invite you to join in our year round Sunday School for all ages and many other activities: choir, youth fellowship, guild, young adult fellowship, Bible study, potluck! And many more.

[Back to the ISC map](#)

PERSONALITY PROFILE

I AM THE UCC ...

My roots go back 2,000 years, but I am very much now and today.

Instead, I embrace modern intelligent thinking:

Acceptance.

Inclusiveness.

Justice.

I can even be lighthearted. My open-armed approach is appealing to people of all races and lifestyles. Which might explain why my congregations are diverse and unique.

Another funny thing happens when you're less judgmental. You allow people to search, discover and flourish. My friends come to me to seek their own answers, look inside themselves and explore their spiritual lives.

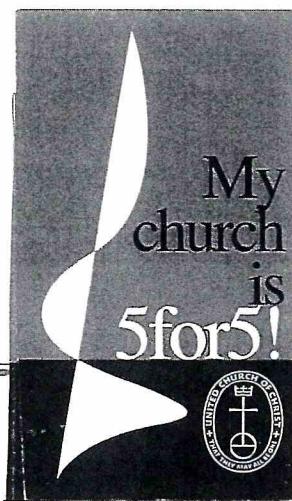
In the end, my personality is reflective of Christ's.

Open.

Embracing.

Nurturing.

And eternally relevant.



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



If you have enjoyed this composition, consider these other works for further information:

Information and illustrations used to construct this book has been collected from the following references by Pinckneyville, IL St. Paul U.C.C. Historian, Eric Lambert:

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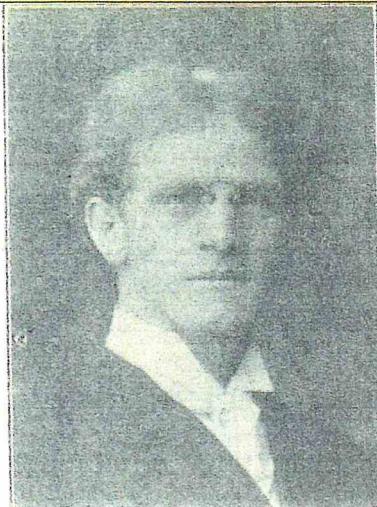
St. Paul United Church of Christ Pinckneyville Illinois Oct. 31, 2004
<http://www.iscucc.org/churches/0790.htm>





Three past presidents of the consistory of St. Paul's Evangelical Church touch fire to portions of a mortgage that was recently paid off by the congregation. The pastor, Rev. Harold A. Shulz, looks on. The ceremony celebrated clearing of the indebtedness on remodeling of the church three years ago. Pictured from left to right are: Rev. Shulz, Jake Bender, Arthur Scherle, and Henry Rabe. -Advocate Photo

018-357-8075
A place where everyone is welcome.



Deutsche Gottesdienste

1, 3, 4 u. 5 Sonntag
im Monat um 10:30

English Services

2nd Sunday Morning in the Month and
on the 1, 3 and 5 Sunday evenings.

Services at White Walnut

2nd and 4th Sunday afternoons.

Rev. F. H. Mittendorf, Pastor

—Phone Call No. 63—